

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. XLIV.]

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, 28TH OCTOBER, 1896.

No. 18.

CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c.....	321
Leading Articles:—	
Prospects of Reform in China	322
British Trade with China and Foreign Competition.....	322
Alleged Torture at Manila.....	323
Plague at Bombay	323
The Outrage by the Chinese Legation	324
The Navy League and its Work	324
The Maxim Gun Company, H.K.V.C.	324
The Present Condition of Affairs in the Philippines	324
Supreme Court	327
Hongkong Sanitary Board	328
The Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce	328
Hongkong Branch of the Navy League	330
Reviews	331
Illegal Arrest by the Chinese Legation	331
The Bennert Case	332
Piracy and Murder near Green Island.....	332
The Special Court of Taiwan Closed.....	332
Cricket	332
Hongkong and Port News.....	333
Commercial	334
Shipping	336

BIRTH.

On the 21st inst., at No. 3, Morrison Hill, Hongkong, the wife of CHARLES W. SPRIGGS, Royal Engineer Civil Staff, of a daughter. [2412]

MARRIAGE.

On the 21st October, at Union Church, Hongkong, by the Rev. G. J. Williams, THOMAS HENRY KINGSLEY, to ELIZABETH MAUD BUXTON. No Cards. [2413]

DEATHS.

At Greenock, on the 22nd inst., EMILIE, the beloved wife of J. DICKIN. (By tel gram.) [2422]

At the Peak Hospital, on the 26th inst., PETER FOSTER, aged 41 years. Late of C. I. M. Customs. [2437]

At Kobe, Japan, on the 15th October, 1896, JAMES BANNERMAN, late of Shanghai, in his 74th year.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 25th September arrived, per M. M. steamer *Ernest Simons*, on the 26th October (31 days); and the American mail of the 30th September arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Doric*, on the 27th October (27 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The departure of the cruiser *Yoshino Kan*, which vessel was to have left Yokosuka for Manila on the 13th instant, has been stopped.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Branch of the Navy League was held on the 23rd October, when an interesting account was given of the work done during the year.

Reuter reports that a Chinese doctor named San Yat Yen, alleged to have been concerned in the abortive attempt at rebellion in Canton last year, has been imprisoned in the Chinese Legation, London, but was released in response to a sharp note from Lord Salisbury.

The rice mill of the Ngo Chang Hoan firm at Cholon was burnt down on the morning of the 18th October. The loss is estimated at \$90,000, which is covered by insurance. This is the second rice mill that has been burnt down at Cholon within the past six months.

The Indo-China S. N. Co.'s new river steamer *Suiwo* left home the 11th inst. for Shanghai.

Sir Claude MacDonald, in forwarding the Legation report on the foreign trade of China in 1895, draws attention to the differential freights charged to British ports as against foreign ports, greatly to the advantage of the latter.

Chang Chih-man, one of the four Grand Secretaries and a member of the Tsungli Yamen, has, we learn from the *Chung Ngai San Po*, been permitted to retire, on his fourth application. He is about eighty years of age. He belongs to the same clan as Chang Chih-tung.

Latest news from Manila shows that the Philippine rebellion is growing more serious and will not be suppressed without much difficulty. Mr. J. W. Davidson, the special correspondent, states that torture has been used by the Spanish authorities to extract disclosures from persons arrested in connection with the movement.

The *N. C. Daily News* says the Tsungli Yamen signed with Mr. J. J. Buchheister on the 17th October a contract for two cruisers to be built by Sir Wm. Armstrong's company at Elswick. The same paper also says Messrs. R. Telge & Co. have contracted with the Tsungli Yamen for four torpedo boats to be built by F. Schichan of Elbing.

A telegram has been received by the Canton Government, we learn from the *Chung Ngai San Po*, stating that an Imperial edict was issued on the 20th October appointing Sheng Taotai General Director of railway construction in China, on the recommendation of Wang Wen Shao, Viceroy of Chihli, and Chang Chih-tung, Viceroy of the Hu Kwang.

The French gunboat *Aspic*, while on a voyage from Bangkok to Hatien recently, struck the Brown Rock, near Chantaboun, during the night. Fortunately she had only a few plates damaged and was able to effect temporary repairs by her own resources and continue her voyage. M. DeFrance, the French Minister to Siam, and his family were on board, going to Cambodia to meet M. Rousseau, Governor-General of Indo-China.

Lient.-General Kawakami and his suite, who are going to Formosa shortly, intend to proceed to the Pescadores, after staying about three weeks in Formosa. The party is then expected to visit Amoy, Hongkong, Singapore, and Annam for the purpose of making certain investigations. The *Mainichi* states that the investigations are connected with colonization questions as well as military considerations. On their way home they are expected to call at the Philippine Islands. The tour will last two months.—*Kobe Herald*.

It is rumoured, in native official circles at Shanghai that H.E. Kung Chao-yuan, at present Minister to Great Britain, sent by the last French mail a memorial to the Throne asking to be allowed to resign his post owing to his inability to bear the climate of London, in consequence of which he has been repeatedly ill during the last two years of his office. H.E. has been three years Minister, and as his term has already expired, the chances are that his request will be granted, unless the Emperor wishes him to take a second term.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The *Chih-nan-pao* states that the Chinese authorities have not yet paid the compensation to which Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. are entitled for the loss of the *Kowshing*, but it is said that the Chinese authorities settled for the payment in Peking yesterday (18th October)—*China Gazette*.

From credible information we (*Peking and Tientsin Times*) learn that H.E. Li's sojourn in Peking is to be very short, as he is likely to be reappointed to his old post as Viceroy of Chihli. At the present moment the G. O. M. stands in higher favour with the Emperor and Empress-Dowager than ever before.

Trade in Tonkin does not appear to be in a very flourishing condition at present. The *Courrier d'Haiphong* says:—The Customs receipts for the present year are sensibly lower than they were in 1895. In 1895 the average receipts were \$120,000 per month, varying from \$112,000 to \$125,000. For the nine months already expired of the present year the average will hardly be \$100,000; in only two months has that figure been exceeded. The receipts for the whole year will therefore probably show a falling off of \$250,000 as compared with the previous year. It may be mentioned that one Chinese firm, the Kong Yu Long, pays from \$28,000 to \$30,000 a month for import and export duties. This indicates the extent of the firm's business. Its Laokay branch has in its hands nearly the whole of the trade with Yunnan.

With reference to Mr. Dudgeon's mission to Peking, the Shanghai papers are officially informed that though in the opinion of the Ministers generally the appointment by them of a Commission is not practicable, they have expressed a very unanimous opinion in favour of the formation of a special Mercantile Committee in Shanghai to report upon present taxation and its incidence and to make such recommendations as to increase or reduction thereof, and of the conditions under which amendments would be acceptable to foreign trade, whilst beneficial and equitable to China. The formal reply from the U.S. Minister to the letter of the Chamber of Commerce, of 17th September, is not yet to hand, but may be expected in a few days, and the composition of the Committee is under consideration, but we are glad to say Mr. Dudgeon has consented to act as Chairman.

The Chungking correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writing under date of 2nd October says:—One of the Lyons Mission, M. Ducloux, an engineer, has had a disagreeable encounter with a soldier in the escort of a mandarin repairing to Thibet. The soldier rushed at him, and waved a drawn sword above his head. Happily the Frenchman kept quite cool. The authorities have since asked the French Consul here whether he wants the soldier's head, or his nose, as atonement for such an unprovoked attack. In the end it has been settled he is to be bamboozed, but M. Haas insists that the fact of the soldier's punishment is to be placarded about the country for the greater safety of subsequent travellers. The members of the Lyons Mission were to leave Chengtu on Monday, and we hear to our great regret will only spend a day or two here en route for Shanghai, some of them, however, proceeding to Yunnan once more. It seems two other French Missions are on their way here.

PROSPECTS OF REFORM IN CHINA.

Although the system of administration in China is rotten to the core, and the fact is generally admitted, there seems not the remotest prospect of any change for the better being introduced from within. So far from the party of reform (if the existence of two or three officials who recognise the evils from which their country is suffering can be so named) being strengthened by the terrible lessons taught by the recent war, it would seem as if the party of corruption were stronger than ever. The journey of LI HUNG-CHANG, just completed, and the interesting personality of the veteran, have served to cast a fresh glamour over the grand old contract jobber, increasing his influence probably at the expense of the reformers. LI may talk glibly about improvements, and his desire to cover the Empire with a network of railways, but experience has shown that, beyond the introduction of the iron road and the reconstruction of the shattered Chinese navy, nothing in the shape of administrative reform need be looked for as the fruit of his advocacy. He can understand and may sympathise with material improvements, such as the promotion of better means of communication and the acquisition of more formidable armaments; but he has, we imagine, no sympathy with those who would endeavour to effect reform in the administration. Less conservative than some of his countrymen, who cling fast to tradition and the classics, and whose parrot cry is, The past has been glorious; let us perpetuate the past! he nevertheless has no desire to attempt to clean the Augean stable of corruption existing in every official yamen in the land. Has he not, indeed, profited greatly from the same corruption, until he has become rich beyond the dreams of avarice? Our hope certainly is not in LI HUNG-CHANG. Neither is it in the truculent SHENG Taotai, who has just been swaggering in Peking, where, probably by the judicious employment of some of his ill gotten gains, he has obtained promotion to the rank of a Court official of the third grade, which, according to etiquette, places the recipient on an equality with the Governor of a province. It is stated by native reports that the EMPEROR was so pleased with the intelligence displayed by SHENG during the audience accorded to him by His Majesty that this new mark of Imperial favour was bestowed upon him, but it is hardly likely that his intelligence would have won the distinction for him had not the Taotai been bled very freely at the Anting Gate. It is this stamp of men who still enjoy most favour at Peking, and with whom the foreign merchants will have to deal in the future. What hope is there of any scheme of administrative reform being inaugurated, or, if inaugurated, what chance is there of its succeeding, when the highest officials exist mainly to squeeze trade and harass the honest trader?

The fact that there seems a sort of tacit agreement amongst the Treaty Powers to prevent interference with China by any one of their number will tend still further to crystallise into obstinate resistance to all change the passive apathy of the mandarins. The present attitude of the Powers towards China is certainly not calculated to influence her in the direction of reform, for the Tsungli Yamen will be encouraged more than ever to pit one Western Power against another, in the hope of getting out of

some important treaty obligations and with a view to establish precedents for erecting new barriers against Western encroachment. Just as in Turkey, where the condition of affairs has drifted from bad to worse, until the SULTAN's misgovernment is a scandal to the whole civilised world, so the jealousies of the Western Powers will produce in China the progress downward of the mandarins until oppression and corruption will possibly either bring about disruption or dismemberment. As we intimated at the outset, there is little hope of improvement from within; is there, then, any chance of reform from efforts outside the Celestial Empire? If there is such a chance we fancy it must be both remote and slender. That such a contingency exists we are reminded, however, by a statement lately made in the *New York Herald*. According to that journal a society has been formed among the Chinese in the United States, which has for its object to prove to the Chinese race that their backward condition, through means of which they were defeated so disastrously by the Japanese in the late war, is due to the shortcomings of their Government. The society proposes to show that the Emperor of CHINA and his advisers keep the people in the thrall of ignorance lest, with awakened intelligence and greater education, there should arise among the masses a spirit of freedom and a desire for reform. The name of this society is said to be the Hung Chung Woey, and its headquarters are in New York. The president is WALTER N. FONG, the first Chinese graduate of Stanford University, and the *Herald* says that his principal colleagues and advisers are Chinese graduates from Yale, Harvard, and other American universities and colleges. This society may perhaps succeed, in the course of years, if sufficiently active, in stirring up a feeling of deep disloyalty to the reigning dynasty, which is not unnaturally regarded by Chinese as responsible for the misfortunes and humiliations that have lately overtaken the Flowery Land. But that it will be able to organise a conspiracy sufficiently far-reaching and powerful to overthrow the existing régime we do not for a moment believe, unless it joined forces with the Kolao Hui, White Lily, and other secret societies in China. And it is hardly likely there could be much sympathy between the very dubious societies named and the patriotic body formed in America from among the most enlightened Chinese residents there. The Imperial Government is weak enough when there is any occasion to appeal to it for intervention on behalf of foreigners, and weak, too, when menaced by a powerful foe from without the gates; but *vis-a-vis* an insurrection, it becomes strong and comparatively vigorous. The mandarins are quickly alive to a danger threatening their cherished right to govern wrongly, and muster their forces energetically to resist attack. The Government possess resources which it would require a very well organised revolt to defeat, and few political risings are either effectively organised or well provided with funds. There is at the moment very slight hope for the regeneration of China; it will take a pretty fair number of reformers to leaven so huge a lump; and the friends of progress must be content to wait with patience, oft renewed, for any great improvement in the condition of the people of the Central Kingdom. At the same time, we must gladly allow that even China moves, though it is difficult to note the progress made; it is so small.

BRITISH TRADE WITH CHINA AND FOREIGN COMPETITION.

In the Report on the foreign trade of China drawn up by Mr. GRANT DUFF, of the British Legation, two important subjects are mentioned and are drawn special attention to by Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD in his covering despatch. These are the employment by British manufacturers of agents of other nationalities, and the differential rates levied upon British trade by British ship-owners to the advantage of foreign trade. As to the first of these subjects, we may regret that British manufacturers should find it to their interest to employ foreigners, but the only lesson to be drawn from the fact is that Englishmen must qualify themselves for the positions by education and training. Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD says that during the short time he has been at the Peking Legation he has had interviews with and has endeavoured to assist to the best of his ability the representatives of six world renowned British manufacturers and shipbuilding yards; these gentlemen, though apparently well qualified for their work, were all foreigners. This is clearly not a case of the competition of cheap labour. The world renowned manufacturers and shipbuilding yards in selecting gentlemen to represent them in such important and delicate negotiations as those to be carried on at Peking would naturally be prepared to pay for the best skill money could command, and apparently foreigners best fulfilled the requirements. The Minister does not tell us whether the representatives were gentlemen specially sent out from home or merchants already established in China, but that is an immaterial point, the lesson being the same in either case. Englishmen have never shown any reluctance to avail themselves of the skill of the foreigner when there was any advantage to be gained from it, and the policy having been attended with results of substantial value, it is not likely that it will be reversed and an exclusivism adopted similar to that which hampers the progress of some other countries. England draws to herself the best of the whole world, and long may she continue to do so, but none the less is it desirable that such circumstances as that mentioned by Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD should be drawn attention to, in order that our own countrymen may be stimulated to qualify themselves so as to be able to dispense with the services of foreigners. In illustration of the advantage of employing foreigners, however, where they have any skill to sell that cannot be purchased at home, we might point to the iron and steel industry; amongst the pioneers and scientific discoverers whose names are identified with the modern development of this great branch of our national industry those of Germans occupy a prominent place. It should be noted, too, that these gentlemen, though foreigners to begin with, generally ended by becoming naturalised British subjects.

As to the second point mentioned, the discrimination practised by British ship-owners against trade to or from British ports, Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD is to be congratulated on the terse and incisive manner in which he deals with the matter. "Mr. GRANT DUFF also alludes to the differential freights charged to British ports as against foreign ports greatly to the advantage of the latter, it being cheaper to send merchandise to Hamburg, New York, and Odessa than to London, though the goods often go to Hamburg via London. I am

"informed that these differential freights are also charged by British steamship companies, and that this has caused more injury to British trade than any foreign competition, which indeed it has built up and fostered. Of course there is nothing absolutely new in this, for it has been said often enough before; but it obtains added weight from the statement being made on the authority of a Minister. It is to be hoped Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD, the Consuls, and all public men who have the opportunity will steadily continue to urge this matter on the attention of the Government and the public, for, even if they have nothing new to say, by much speaking they may at last command a hearing and induce action. What direction that action should take has yet to be indicated. The shipowners cannot be expected to reduce their rates in a burst of patriotism, their business being to make all they can for themselves and their shareholders, but it is clear that there is something vicious in a system by which the greatest maritime nation of the world places its shipping at the disposal of foreigners on more favourable terms than those accorded to nationals. Shipowners themselves preserve a discreet silence in the matter, which may be taken as an admission of the truth of all that is alleged against them, an admission that by combination they have secured the whip hand and intend to keep it as long as they can, just as the cable companies mean to do in respect of telegraphic rates. How combinations of this kind are to be met is one of the problems of modern trade. As regards telegraphic communication we may hope in time to obtain relief by Government taking over the business or establishing alternative lines, but Government will not take over the shipping business. The question is whether anything could be done by legislation in restraint of combination, but that way leads to great difficulties and unknown dangers.

ALLEGED TORTURE AT MANILA.

The correspondence of Mr. J. W. DAVIDSON which we have recently published gives a very painful picture of the position of affairs in the Philippines. The most striking feature is the torturing of the prisoners taken by the Spanish. It appears almost incredible that at the end of the nineteenth century the instruments of torture of the Inquisition days should be resurrected and brought into actual use. The statement makes the blood boil, and we would fain hope that the Manila Government may be able to give some contradiction to an allegation of conduct that must strike the whole civilised world as abominable. Unfortunately, however, the statement appears too categorical to admit of contradiction; it rests not only on the assertions of possible opponents of Spanish rule, but it is said the Spaniards themselves admit and justify the practice. If that be so, it may be taken as the certain handwriting on the wall foretelling the ultimate downfall of Spanish rule. Even if the present rebellion be suppressed—a task which it now appears will not be easy of accomplishment—the memory of these cruelties will dwell with the natives, will intensify the hatred they bear towards their rulers, and will predispose them to make another blow for liberty at the first favourable opportunity. The use of torture also suggests another danger to Spanish rule, namely, that of foreign intervention. Where the laws of humanity are grossly outraged by a Government any other Government prepared to assume the re-

sponsibility and incur the risks involved in interference may plead justification for such a course. Between the Japanese and the natives of the Philippines there exist racial affinities and the Japanese Government might plead the same right to interfere for the protection of the Philippines that the Christian nations of Europe claim to possess in regard to the affairs of Turkey. It would be a startling circumstance to see a pagan nation interfering for the protection of the subjects of a Christian Government, but such interference has now come within the bounds of possibility. Japan has been credited with a desire to annex the Philippines, and there can be no doubt that the addition of those rich islands to the Empire of the Rising Sun would afford much gratification to the Japanese nation. Japan has bound herself by treaty, however, to recognise the Bashee Channel as demarcating her sphere of influence from that of Spain, and there is no reason to suppose that any intention exists on her part to go behind that agreement, unless good occasion should arise for such a course, in which case she would denounce the treaty openly. If she aimed at annexation, however, she would doubtless encounter opposition from various European Powers, which, at present at all events, she would not be prepared to disregard. Armed intervention is, therefore, in the present instance, improbable, but Spain by her unwise action is opening the door for diplomatic representations, which may pave the way for stronger measures at some future time. Also the present course of events may incline Japan, in the event of the rebels growing strong enough to establish anything like settled government in the territory held by them, to accord to them recognition as belligerents, which would be in various ways an advantage to them. In any case, and however doubtful this forecast of the probable attitude of Japan may be, certain it is, that if the alleged use of torture by the Spanish Government in the Philippines is established as an incontrovertible fact it will be attended by its Nemesis. Torture is not a thing to be tolerated by the civilized world in the present day and the Government that practices it must either reform its methods or go under.

PLAGUE AT BOMBAY.

Various theories have been advanced to account for the introduction of the plague into Bombay. According to some, it has been introduced in some mysterious way from Hongkong, according to others the filthy condition of the drains is responsible for it, and others again say it is due to the peculiar character of the monsoon this year. The theory that the contagion has been conveyed by steamer from Hongkong appears untenable, other ports with which this colony is in much closer connection not having been affected in any way, Singapore and Bangkok for instance. Nor does the theory of the filthy condition of the drains suffice to account for the introduction of the disease, though it might contribute to its virulence when once the introduction had been effected. If plague could be set down as the direct consequence of filthy drains we should expect to find the consequence following the cause wherever the latter existed, whereas there are filthy drains in innumerable towns and cities in which the plague has not made its appearance in modern times. The third theory, namely, that the disease is due to the peculiar character of the monsoon, is clearly a mere guess, but

it possesses some little plausibility. Dr. YERZIN, in his investigations in Hongkong, found that the bacillus of the plague had its habitat in the soil. It may be that this micro-organism is present in the soil everywhere and at all times, but requires a peculiar meteorological condition for the exercise of its morbid influence upon man. When the plague made its first appearance in Hongkong the prolonged drought was thought by some to be responsible for it, whereas the monsoon in India this year has been characterized by an abnormally heavy rainfall, so that if meteorological conditions have anything to do with the matter it would seem that it is not mere dryness or dampness that is the determining factor.

In his presidential address to the British Association Sir JOSEPH LISTER spoke of PASTEUR's investigation of micro-organisms. "It was at that period a prevalent notion, even among many eminent naturalists, that such humble and minute beings originated *de novo* in decomposing organic substances, the doctrine of spontaneous generation, which had been chased successively from various positions which it once occupied among creatures visible to the naked eye, having taken its last refuge where the objects of study were of such minuteness that their habits and history were correspondingly difficult to trace." PASTEUR, however, showed that, as he expressed it, "*la génération spontanée est une chimère*," and that the humblest and minutest living organisms can only originate by parentage from beings like themselves. The idea of the spontaneous generation of the plague bacillus either in filthy drains or elsewhere must therefore be dismissed, and the cause of the bacillus suddenly becoming active as a producer of disease in man must be sought elsewhere. Here, however, we touch wholly unknown country. Sir JOSEPH LISTER's address gives an interesting account of the wonderful progress made in combatting the morbid attacks of micro-organisms on the human being, but as regards the life history of these organisms and the conditions determining their attacks upon the human race the scientific world appears to be still in complete ignorance. One thing, however, has been demonstrated by experience, namely, that the attacks of the plague bacillus fail upon subjects living wholesome lives under good sanitary conditions and succeed only upon those living in unhealthy surroundings or whose system has been weakened by other disease.

When the plague made its first appearance in Hongkong it was predicted that it would run its course the world over, not because Hongkong was to prove itself a centre of infection, but because the cause of the disease had become active; it was a mere hap that Hongkong was one of the earliest places affected. The unfortunate outbreak of the disease at Bombay would seem to lend probability to the fulfilment of the prediction alluded to. If the theory upon which that prediction is founded be correct, quarantine regulations will do little to stop the incursion of the enemy, for wherever it is not opposed by an effective rampart of sanitation there the disease, according to this theory, will make its appearance. In view of the standard of sanitation now attained in Europe and America we may hope, even if the theory be correct, that the white races will for the most part escape. The theory, however, rests only on conjecture, and it is therefore unnecessary as yet to take a very gloomy view even as regards the spread of the disease in Asia, notwithstanding the case of

Bombay. Absolutely nothing is known as regards the causation of the disease, except that the bacillus flourishes only in filthy surroundings.

THE OUTRAGE BY THE CHINESE LEGATION.

The outrage perpetrated by the Chinese Legation in London in the illegal arrest and detention of Dr. SAN YAT YEN is not a circumstance to occasion regret, so far as this colony is concerned; on the contrary it is one of the best things that could have happened. The Chinese Government is very anxious to have a Consul at Hongkong, and although the question is not open at the present time there is little doubt that the request which has been refused on two previous occasions will be renewed from time to time. When next the subject comes forward for discussion we will be able to recall the incident of SAN YAT YEN to the recollection of the home Government and point to it as an illustration of the difficulties that would be of daily occurrence were a Chinese official permanently located in Hongkong. Such an official would not have facilities for maintaining a Chinese gaol or house of detention in the colony, but he would have no scruple in trying to effect illegal arrests when men were wanted by his Government either as offenders against the law or simply to be squeezed, and to smuggle the prisoners out of the colony. That has been done on more than one occasion without the assistance of a Consul, and with a Consul a whole corps of detectives would be required to watch his doings and those of his staff in order to prevent the repetition of such outrages. And even if it were found possible to prevent everything in the nature of illegal arrests in the colony nothing could prevent the enormous squeezing that would take place, because most of the Chinese in Hongkong have family connections on the mainland and they could be dealt with through them. The home Government has been inclined to treat China as a fully civilised nation and to allow her all the rights and privileges usually accorded to such, and had Hongkong not made strong representations on the subject there is little doubt we would have had a Chinese Consul here years ago. The case of Dr. SAN YAT YEN will open the eyes of the Foreign Office as to the character of Chinese officials and strengthen the case of Hongkong against the appointment of a Chinese Consul in this colony.

THE NAVY LEAGUE AND ITS WORK.

At the annual meeting of the Hongkong Branch of the Navy League an interesting record was given of useful work performed. Many people have entertained the idea that the League has no scope in Hongkong, that there are no practical ends to be pursued. The chief object of the League is to educate the electors of Great Britain as to the importance of the Navy, but here in Hongkong, where we have no parliamentary elections and where, moreover, almost every Englishman is more or less directly connected with shipping and fully recognises how essential it is to Great Britain that she should maintain her command of the sea, it has been urged that a society to educate the public on that particular point is not exactly necessary. A perusal of the report of Friday's meeting ought to convince the objectors that there is useful work for the League to do even in Hongkong and ought to induce them to enrol themselves as members. As was pointed out at the meeting, the League

cannot be allowed to dictate the policy of the Admiralty, but it can draw attention to the weak points and agitate means for a remedy. The Hongkong Branch during the first year of its existence has supported the Hon. C. P. CHATER's advocacy of the extension of our frontier on naval lines, has brought to the notice of the League at home the growing necessity for the re-enactment of the Contagious Diseases Act, and has also drawn attention to the present unsatisfactory working of the Royal Naval Reserve under the Board of Trade in so far as the colonies are concerned, it being impossible for men to join the reserve except in England. Calculations have also been made of the average daily value of the shipping afloat in these waters and exposed to capture by an enemy. All these are subjects the agitation of which is calculated to produce valuable practical results, and the record of the first year's work of the Hongkong Branch of the Navy League shows that it is a body which should command the sympathy and support of all Britishers.

THE MAXIM GUN COMPANY, H.K.A.C.

The remarks made by Major PEMBERTON, the Commandant of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, at the official dinner given during the annual encampment at Stonecutters' Island with reference to the Maxim Gun Company are deserving of very serious consideration, and we sincerely trust that the Commandant's timely and friendly criticism will be productive of substantial good to the Volunteer movement in Hongkong. It was in the course of an interesting review of the working of the Corps since he took over his present position that Major PEMBERTON gave frank expression to his views concerning the Maxim Gun Company, and what he said was to the effect that unfortunately sufficient support had not been given to this section of the Corps and as a consequence it was now considerably below its proper strength. The reason he gave was that the Maxim Gun Company was composed of young men in banks and offices who were from time to time transferred to other places, and their successors in Hongkong did not fill the gap in the ranks of the Volunteers caused by their transference. On the other hand the Field Battery is immensely popular and at the present time it is above its standard strength and is likely to still further increase in numbers and efficiency. It is to be feared that there is some other reason for the ill-success of the Maxim Company than that mentioned by the worthy Commandant. To commence with, as was pointed out by the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD, there is a deplorable lack of sympathy on the part of merchants in the colony. The men themselves can do little without the cordial co-operation of their employers, who, we think, are in duty bound to afford all reasonable assistance in promoting the success of the Corps, and it is to be hoped that the speech made by Mr. WHITEHEAD will be the means of rousing the leading men in the colony from their present apathetic state. We have heard of another cause for the present position of affairs and that is that the members of the Company have overstrained themselves in endeavouring to maintain a too severe exclusiveness, and there may be something in that. There must be for many reasons a certain amount of exclusiveness in the Maxim Gun Company, as was frankly recognised when the corps was reorganised, the rules in force being adopted with the view of allowing the men to sort themselves according to their social

affinities; but perhaps if less fear of being blackballed existed amongst would-be candidates the Maxims would increase in number, providing, of course, the employers put their shoulders to the wheel.

THE PRESENT CONDITION OF AFFAIRS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

[SPECIAL CORRESPONDENCE.]

Three lots of troops from Spain have already arrived, numbering altogether about three thousand men. It is expected that this number will soon be augmented to eight thousand, and the Spanish say that that number can be doubled or tripled if necessary without delay. These arrivals are most enthusiastically welcomed and the day of their landing becomes a popular holiday. Profuse decorations, triumphal arches, floral displays, and the national colours, red and yellow, are to be seen on every side. Pretty women look down from numerous balconies and throw arms full of flowers and occasional fans to fall on the shoulders of their newly arrived countrymen as they go marching by. Pure white doves with their wings bound about with gaily coloured ribbons were also thrown down, too often but to be kicked to death by the passing troops, who are more engrossed in the coming feast prepared for them than in the pretty messengers of welcome. Judging from appearance these men have been picked up from the very lowest classes of the Peninsula. I have never seen a more unsoldierly looking lot of soldiers unless it be the Chinese. They were continually out of step, weak-kneed, and marched with anything rather than a military bearing. Rifles carried at all angles, their accoutrements irregularly arranged, and their light blue uniforms faded and dirty. In fact there was not the least suspicion of the orderly, sprightly soldier we expect and find in the modern armies of to-day. I understand these men were raw recruits and that they were drilled on board ship. Of course one must take into consideration that the men have just completed a long and tedious sea journey. We can imagine that their quarters were not any too comfortable aboard ship and no doubt many were weakened by sickness. They were glad to get ashore and threw their caps about in the air with the utmost lack of concern as to whether in their descent they came near enough to be recovered or not. No provision in the shape of quarters had been made, so they were placed about the city, the religious orders furnishing temporary housing for them.

The Philippine command appears specially weak in artillery. Machine guns would play a most important part in intimidating the enemy, and field guns would also of course be of great use. But with the exception of obsolete muzzle loaders, they are scarcely provided. To see the bright looking fellows attached to the artillery drilling with old gun metal cannon of the days of King Charles is most interesting but appears to be a trifle behind the times. The city fortifications consist of numerous battlements defended by these same old picturesque relics of early days. Some few modern guns of small calibre do exist, it is true, but it is no exaggeration to say that a single modern battleship could with ease and safety enter the bay and destroy the whole city of Manila. No doubt this state of affairs will be somewhat altered, for it has been stated that one of the transports soon to arrive will bring some modern armament.

The equipment and strength of the rebels is unknown. They have a variety of rifles, Mausers among them. That in numbers they are more numerous than was first reported there is no doubt.

The bulk of the Spanish troops are now in the disturbed Cavite province and the latest news is that they are not having the easy time expected.

During the long period when the small handful of Spanish troops were waiting for reinforcements arrests were made to a great number, until at present it is estimated that over three thousand unfortunates have been corralled. To care for such a great number has taxed the authorities to the utmost, and foul dungeons, unfit for any human being, have been used as a last resort. It was thus that horrible death was

dealt to the fifty-nine unfortunates who were smothered in the "Dark hole of Manila."

It seems the prisoners were let down into this death pit from an opening above. The sentry on guard excused the affair by saying that it was raining and as he was afraid the inmates would get wet he placed boards over the entrance thus shutting up the only opening for ventilation, leaving over four hundred gasping creatures fighting each other like madmen in their efforts to find a breath of air. (How refreshing to find a Spaniard so considerate at the suffering of the enemy!) The Philippine gaols and prisons are not very good even in times of peace, and it is said that corruption had reached such a state that after a sentenced man had been placed in prison it was necessary for the injured party to fee the jailer that the prisoner might be confined until the end of his term. Now that some of the natives have risen in rebellion against the Spanish very little mercy can be hoped for. When a native who is suspected to be connected, or whom it is to the advantage of the Spanish to consider connected, with the rebellion has been seized, his arms are bound back by fastening strong cords drawn across the back to each elbow. So tight is this drawn, and so long continued, that the arm is invariably badly lacerated and cases have been noticed, as example one prisoner named Lerma whose flesh was so badly torn that he lost the use of both arms, where the wound was of such a nature as to disable or injure the arm permanently. But this is but the beginning and by far the least of the torture the suspect has to undergo before his fate is settled. The prisoner is usually first taken before the Civil Governor and Military Court, where he is subjected to examination. If his answers are not satisfactory, and they ordinarily are not, unless guilt is confessed, he is taken to the torture chamber. After being stripped he is first subject to whipping with rattans. Two hundred blows or more if the victim is specially obstinate. If this is not successful good old fashioned thumb screws are brought into play and the poor wretch, already half dead from the beating, is obliged to undergo the exquisite pain that these little instruments can so readily produce. These torturing machines were actually those used in the days of the Inquisition and preserved to this time in the Monastery of St. Augustine at Manila to be brought into use at this day when the world calls for mercy and compassion! The above is well known by all to be a fact; the natives add more tortures which may or may not be true. They say that prisoners have been placed against a board wall and small nails driven through each finger, holding the arms out as in a crucifixion, until the suffering man cries out a confession. Again, the suspects have been bound and fastened in one position from which they cannot change while a tap of water is so arranged above them that drop after drop falls on their heads, causing great torture. But even putting aside these native accounts—and yet they do not appear so improbable—there is plenty in the beating and thumb-screws, to which can be added the hanging up of the suspects by the thumbs and hanging them up by a rope fastened to their bound arms behind them, to criticize and condemn. What do the Spanish say to this? Why simply this, and it is certainly one way to look at it: the natives have no fear of simple imprisonment. To their minds there is not the shame and degradation with which we regard it. Consequently some other form of punishment must be resorted to. That torturing is effective is proven by many cases, for from confession and information secured from guilty parties who were being subjected to torture the names of many of the leaders and other prominent rebels have been divulged. But while the Spaniards may gain much in this way it is equally certain that many innocent persons, unable to bear longer the pain, would claim guilt or readily accuse guiltless persons for the sake of temporarily saving themselves from torture. This is the case often occurring in China. Why not in the Philippines, where about the same class of torture is practiced? Spain makes great pretensions as a Christian nation and yet she, with the connivance of the Church, indulges in cruel practices the most contrary to the merciful teachings of

Christianity. The torturing of the suspect Manuel Abella, an old man seventy years of age, who as a result is now in a very critical condition, is said to have been done at the instigation of one of the priests.

Those suspects who are found or declared guilty are, if the accusation is one of direct participation in aiding the rebellion, sentenced to death. The execution is performed within twenty-four hours of the signing of the death warrant and usually takes place in the public park, where the men, bound, are placed on their knees and shot in the back, death not always being instantaneous. During the last execution thirty-four Spanish ladies were counted among the spectators, in fact the killing is looked upon to a certain extent as a sort of exhibition and no doubt compensates for the loss of the bull fights, which have been during these days discontinued. Bands of music are also present and by a rendition of a pleasing programme make the performance all the more enjoyable.

It should be said in justice to the Governor-General that the number coming under his immediate authority receiving death warrants is proportionately few. In fact, according to precedents established by former treatment of rebels in other countries, the Spanish would be warranted in putting to death any persons in the least way implicated. Others not sentenced to death have been banished, some to the Carolines, but the larger number to the unhealthy African coast colonies, in the Gulf of Guinea.

The Spanish have been accused of arresting a great many of the wealthy natives or half-castes on suspicion, and confiscating their property whether there be sufficient proof of their guilt or not. In this way the Government is said to have acquired a great deal of valuable property.

The rebels are at present strongest in Cavite province, but that is by no means the only district in which they are found. In the province of Nueva Ecija I have it on the best of authority a great deal of fighting has occurred. About a thousand natives who sympathized with the rebel party have been killed. To avoid sending prisoners down to Manila, the authorities have been taking groups consisting of from five to fifteen natives, bound hand and foot, and pitching them into the river to meet death by drowning. My informant also spoke of two prisoners bound in the customary way who upon being brought before the proper Spanish authority were immediately slashed and out unmercifully by a sword in the hands of that individual, who then called a guard who finished what little life there was left in the mutilated bodies by blowing out their brains with his rifle.

So far, with the exceptions I am about to mention, the native troops have been loyal. They make good appearing soldiers, marching with perfect order and preserving while on duty a stolid and determined appearance, which speaks of constant attention to duty and a regard for discipline.

It was these plucky fellows who were sent to Cochin-China to aid the French, where they did such effective work that it has been stated by some officers they did more in quelling the resistance than the French did themselves. If they should turn about and join their countrymen, with their knowledge of organization and drill, the Spanish would find a very difficult task before them.

Would it not be a good idea for the Spanish to send these native soldiers to Cuba to fight, bringing back an equal number of white troops to be used in the Philippines? The Philippine natives could stand the Cuban climate well, would require less care, and could get through the country with less difficulty. In fact they could fight the Cuban rebels with their own weapons. Having no common interest with the Cubans there would be very little probability that they would desert the ranks.

The most alarming report of desertion is that from the island of Mindanao, in the extreme south, although of this no particulars are at hand. The Spanish have never been masters of this big island and the last three Governors-General have been carrying on a constant warfare against the natives. Of late the Spanish have been especially energetic in their attempts to

conquer the island. Numerous forts, some armed with guns, have been built, located at different points along a roadway which has been built from Iligan, the port, to the big lake Lanao, which is in the centre of the disturbed districts. Four small gunboats, or rather armed launches, built in Hongkong, have just been placed in the lake. These little craft are built of steel, the two larger provided with twin screws, and all armed with modern quick-firing and machine guns, including two of eight centimetres. Upon the rebellion breaking out in the north the white troops who had been stationed in Mindanao were all recalled to Manila, leaving the defences in the hands of native troops, together with a battalion of "Disciplinarios," or state prisoners, who are released from confinement upon promise of war duty. It has been reported that these natives have all revolted and are now in supreme control. If this be so, and it is generally believed to be a fact, the great number of arms, ammunition, modern large arms, and the forts and gunboats, together with the unsettled condition of the whole island, will render the rebels so strong that the island will not be recaptured by the Spanish without a most extensive expedition, which in their present condition will be impossible for a few years. The Spaniards will be able no doubt to hold the few coast ports. The struggle that has been carried on in the island for the last few years has been one that smacks of "The Crusade." The natives are Mahomedans and while the same people in North Borneo are considered as quiet law abiding natives by the British, they rose in rebellion, which has been continued for years, at the suggestion that they should come under the yoke of the Catholic religion and be subject to government by the Spanish priests.

A small shore detachment of native marines, when a few miles outside of Manila, joined in an attack on a small body of Spanish troops who were with them. The natives were defeated, but the reports of the number killed are so conflicting that one cannot tell which to place confidence in. It was stated by several that twenty-two marines were killed and two taken prisoners.

In the southern province of Camarines, in the island of Luzon, a carefully planned conspiracy in which the Spanish were to be killed and certain natives were told off for the work was discovered. Among the arrests made in consequence were those of two Spaniards, who have been brought to Manila; Manuel Pardo, a proprietor of a large steam rice mill, and the other named Marti.

While Spanish troops were marching towards Imus, a village occupied by the rebels, they came across a body of rebels. Anxious to display his strategical ability the Commander divided his men, sending a column round to surround the natives. He was successful and the two columns gradually closed in about the enemy, but the latter, fearing that someone would get hurt, gently withdrew from the scene, taking the advantage of a near bit of forest to hide their action. The Spanish continued to surround, pleased with the fact that they were having everything their own way, and coming within range commenced to fire, and the loss was considerable before the Spaniards discovered that they had been firing on each other.

Spanish troops to the number of 1,500 while in the province of Batangas marching towards the lake were on the 13th of October, at early morning, surrounded by rebels, who fired upon them from the underbrush on every side, inflicting a loss of about fifty killed. The Spaniards were eventually able to disperse the rebels, who retreated, leaving, according to Spanish accounts, about two hundred dead on the field.

The rebels were in possession of the Government powder magazine at Binacayan near Cavite, and Spanish troops were sent to dislodge them, but according to their own reports "thought it more prudent to retire." The Spanish reports published in the semi-official paper were given as four slightly wounded, although it is a significant fact that thirteen dead and forty-two wounded were landed on the quay from the expedition.

The rebels have been increasing in boldness and have established themselves at San Mateo,

ten miles distant from the capital. As yet they have met with no opposition.

The rebel stronghold is of course in Cavite, which has a population of about 300,000, where they hold 19 out of the 22 villages in the province.

The centre in which the rebels are gathering is at the village of Imus, seven miles from Cavite city, a place so located that its natural surroundings aid the task with which it might be defended. Fortifications have been built to surround the city and it is thought that the principal stand will be made by the rebels at this point.

The rebels are also fortified at Noveleta, just outside the city of Cavite, and across the bay. The Spanish gunboats have been incessantly bombarding the place for the last month, without any apparent result. The Governor-General intends to place his troops in Batangas and La Laguna to keep the rebels from leaving Cavite and will then close in upon them.

JAMES W. DAVIDSON.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

The following appeared in all the Manila papers:—"A most touching scene took place in the village church of Guiguinto (Province of Bulacan) on Sunday last after high mass. The schoolmaster of the village, Eugenio Castanding, solemnly abjured, in the presence of all the inhabitants of the parish, his adhesion to the abominable and nefarious sect of Freemasons, to which he had previously belonged, exhorting at the same time his fellow villagers never to listen to the doctrines of such an unclean sect, but defend always the integrity and honour of our beloved Spain. After concluding this act of abjuration, a heavenly choir of voices chanted the hymn 'Pardon, oh my God,' and then the zealous and active priest of the village, the Rev. Friar Leopoldo Sanchez, delivered a most impressive and fervent address to the assembled parishioners, setting forth the evils of Freemasonry, which he concluded by saying had been introduced by the devil himself."

On Monday, 12th October, 151 unfortunate natives and half-castes were shipped off to Spain en route for Fernando Po by the steamer *Manila*. Not content with condemning these poor wretches to exile—if they should ever be fortunate enough to reach their destination—and confiscating all the property of those having anything to lose, at the last moment they were robbed of even the little their relatives and friends had provided them with for their long and pitiless journey. Amongst them were many well-to-do natives whose only offence is probably the heinous crime of being Masons, and a most distressing scene occurred on the quay previous to their embarking in the tender, when their wives, families, and relatives came to bid them probably their last farewell. These had brought them clothes and what money they could rake together, which the Spanish soldiers and officials under whose escort they were were condescending enough to allow them to receive without any objection, but once on board the steamer *Manila* the cupidity of these officials could not resist the temptation of securing ill-gotten gain. The exiles were here stripped naked on deck, minutely examined, and every cent they possessed in money was mercilessly taken from them, amounting altogether to some \$1,200, besides all their clothes except those they stood in. From one man a valuable gold watch and chain was taken, from another his gold rimmed spectacles, both being told that such luxuries would not be required in the place they were going to! The poor wretch from whom the spectacles were taken begged hard for their return on account of his defective eyesight, but his entreaties were of no avail and he merely received a kick for an answer.

These unfortunates will arrive in Spain in winter without any but the scanty tropical clothing they stand in, and it will be only natural if many die off with pulmonary diseases. It may be here mentioned that the Spanish authorities neither provide food nor clothing for the exiles in the places they are deported to, but the unfortunate people are turned loose and made to forage for themselves as best they can. This does not so much matter when exiled to other islands in the Archipelago or to the Carolines

or Marianas, where the proverbial hospitality of the native race will always stand them in stead, but in a foreign and sickly place like Fernando Po, with no resources at their disposal, God have pity on them! The Spaniards are openly expressing their hopes that the climate and conditions will soon settle those that don't die on the way or are allowed to drop overboard. This is the treatment such a glorious, magnanimous, and loving mother extends to her children, which the local gagged and servile press is so effusive in praising!

Large amounts of money have been lately collected for the families of the soldiers killed and wounded in action, but it is doubtful if ever the actual sufferers or their relatives will receive any benefit from the same, more especially the loyal native troops. It is well known that of the immense quantities of cigars and cigarettes liberally given by the different factories for the use of the army very little if any has been distributed amongst the native troops who have remained loyal.

You will have already heard of the abominable atrocities committed by the authorities to extort confessions from the arrested persons whether innocent or guilty. Anything that may be written is not severe enough and it is to be hoped that Europe will raise her voice in protest, as she has done before on the Bulgarian atrocities and more recently with reference to the Armenians and Crete. The Black Hole of Manila surpasses even that of Calcutta, and the incident is perfectly true. In justice to the Captain-General be it said that on hearing of it he was so disgusted and annoyed that he kicked the Lieutenant on duty down the stairs and threatened the Lieutenant-Governor with arrest.

On 13th October 1,100 more troops arrived from Spain in the steamer *Anto Lopez*, making about 3,000 since the outbreak.

The idea prevalent in Hongkong, according to last papers received, that the rebellion was put down is the very opposite of the truth. Far from this being the case matters are daily becoming more serious. The inexplicable delay in attacking the rebel stronghold at Imus, in Cavite province, has allowed the natives to assemble there in large force, variously estimated between twenty and thirty thousand, most of whom are armed, many of them with the most modern Mauser rifle, as the wounds inflicted on Spanish soldiers testify. They have thrown up earthworks on the most approved modern principles and strongly entrenched, clearly denoting that they are not devoid of European assistance. It is openly stated that some Spanish officers have gone over to them. Imus is one of the most commanding positions around Manila; from it branch off roads to Manila, Cavite, the villages to west of Cavite, to the province of the Laguna, and, what is far more important, to the hills giving communication to the province of Batangas, which latter communication is evidently being made free use of, as daily skirmishes are taking place between the rebels and the Spanish troops, with very doubtful results for the latter. So far there can be no doubt the rebels have decidedly the advantage, and on the 13th October, near Talisay, in Batangas, and between this and the Laguna district, a very sanguinary battle was fought, in which the Spaniards lost their colonel and two captains killed, one lieutenant severely wounded, besides 80 rank and file killed and 100 made prisoners, and the rebels captured 5,000 rounds of ammunition. As usual, the papers guard an absolute silence on this subject, but from the feeling observable in the Escolta it is evident a depression exists, and this morning (15th) at 5 a.m. 500 Spanish soldiers were despatched in all haste by steamers to the Laguna, about the same number of Indian troops being sent yesterday. Away to the east, in the province of Morong, about 25 miles from Manila, some heavy fighting has taken place within the last few days, and yesterday a further outbreak occurred near Bocane, in Bulacan province, and on the line of railway from Manila to Dagupan, some 14 miles from Manila. A party of rebels 1,000 strong attacked and captured the village of San José, in Nuevo Ecija province, some 60 miles from Manila, also to the north. It is also reported that a steamer has landed a cargo of arms and ammunition on the Pacific coast of Luzon, a thing not at all

unlikely and extremely easy to undertake. Everything now is dependent on Imus. Should the Spaniards meet with a repulse there—a thing not at all unlikely—then matters will be very serious and an immediate general rising may be looked for all round.

Arrests continue to be made, especially of those who have any property to lose, and each day's official *Gazette* publishes orders confiscating some poor unfortunate's property. This will be a fine time for hungry office-seekers and penniless officers for enriching themselves on the spoils, a golden opportunity that will be taken due advantage of. The cream will go to these people, leaving the skim milk only for the Government. It is said the latter is trying to negotiate a loan of six million dollars with the Banco Espanol Filipino, giving as a guarantee the confiscated property of the rebels.

A few days back in a night attack in Batangas province, the rebels attacked a Spanish column, but a second column coming up to the latter's assistance, the rebels quietly retired and the two Spanish columns, taking each other for the enemy, kept up shooting, causing a loss of 19 killed and 42 wounded, before the mistake was found out.

The banqueting and entertaining of the newly arrived officers from Spain are now the order of the day, and some of the speeches herewith enclosed will serve to give you an idea of the Spanish feeling towards the natives, and will enlighten the world somewhat as to the cause of the dissatisfaction resulting in the rebellion. It is idle to compare these natives with the Malay race of Java and the Malay Peninsula or with the native races of India. In intelligence they are quite equal to the Japanese and had they been under English rule for half the period they have been subject to Spain they would unquestionably have made their mark in the world. They are docile and tractable, require only to be ruled with justice, and give very little trouble. They are also fairly honest and had it not been for the examples set them by dishonest rulers, who have for ages made them a target for systematic plunder, thieving would be hardly known. As a proof of this I call attention to the various Igorrote tribes in the mountain districts of North Luzon, still only partly subdued. There, away from baneful Spanish influence and retaining their own faith, thieving is a vice quite unknown.

Many writers wish to attribute the present revolution to the extortions of the Friars. This is not quite right; on the whole their influence has been for good, and although they have no doubt ignored their vows of chastity and poverty, still they have often been the means of preventing greater extortions on the part of the Spanish officials, especially in the provinces, and if they have sometimes sinned against the sixth commandment they are simply mortals like the rest of us and it is unjust to cast the odium of the present state of affairs entirely on them.

A man who has shone high above everything in the present troubles is Governor-General Blanco, of whom Spain or any other nation may justly be proud. To his serenity and calmness Spain at the present moment owes her possession of the islands, and the white race probably their lives. Had the wholesale shooting of suspected natives clamoured for by the majority of Spaniards on the first ebullition of excitement taken place, the populace would have turned desperate and a wholesale slaughter of Europeans taken place in retaliation.

Wholesale arrests of prominent natives continue to take place and the province mail steamers just arrived have brought some well-known people whose only crime is probably the very heinous one in Spanish eyes of having money.

16th October.

The Governor-General returned from Calamba yesterday afternoon, where he has been inspecting the rebel positions, and it is now reported that he requires 20,000 Spanish troops to quell the rebellion. Some severe fighting has taken place in Batangas province, around Tugay, Calaca, and Balayan, where bands of natives 2,000 strong have generally succeeded in forcing the troops to retire. The immense estate of Nagragu, belonging to Mr. Pedro

Roxas, the richest man in the islands, and who was fortunate enough to escape to Singapore, having been confiscated by the Government, was to have been taken possession of by the Judge of Batangas, but the rebels have forestalled him and are in full possession of the place, after driving out the troops on duty, over 70 odd. Every day balloons are being sent up from the rebel lines on all sides of Manila and are plainly visible. These are evidently signals for some preconcerted attack.

This morning it is reported 800 men belonging to one of the native regiments have revolted, but so far there seems to be no confirmation of this. That something is wrong, however, is evident from the hurried return of the Governor General and large reinforcements of Spanish troops sent up via the Laguna.

SOME SPEECHES MADE AT A BANQUET TO NEWLY ARRIVED OFFICERS FROM SPAIN ON 18TH OCTOBER.

SEÑOR D. RAFAEL COMENGA—Gentlemen, in the name of the Spanish Casino, which in the present time does not grudge any sacrifice, I welcome our brave soldiers who are around us and fill our hearts with joy and enthusiasm, full of love for the country, enatifying us like a wave of fresh juvenile blood now running through our veins by magic art. (Great and extraordinary applause). Welcome then ye who are to be the bulwark and stay of our honour. (Fresh applause, drowning the voice of the speaker.) Ye have just arrived in time; the cannibals are still in the woods, the beast of prey is still hiding in his lair—(bravo)—and the hour has come to exterminate the savages; all ferocious animals should be killed—(hear, hear)—bad weeds must be plucked by the roots. (Great applause). The object of war is destruction; its civilising virtue works like a burning iron on the ulcer, destroying its corrupt tissues in order to secure a perfect cure. Show no pardon! (Hear, hear.) Destroy! Kill! Pardon is a prerogative only belonging to the king and not to the army, to the city, not to the camp, and believe me, from there, from that historic, honoured, and dear old land of Spain, which we all love with delirium, no words of peace come against these traitors; on the contrary, rigorous punishment and justice which the voice of the people clamours out shall be severe and not tempered with mercy. (Frantic applause several times repeated, entirely drowning the speaker's voice). Soldiers! you are the arm of Spain. Execute, exterminate if necessary; amputate the vile member to save the body, cut the withered branches which impede the circulation of the sap in order that the tree may burst forth anew with fresh leaves and flowers. (Sr. Panarando: "That is the way to speak.") Bravo and great applause.) The variety of uniforms which you see mixed up here will clearly show you how necessary war has been and still is. These you see here in battle array are not military men (speaking of the volunteers) but civilians, who in view of an infamous rebellion, steeped in obscurity, fleeing from the light like infernal animals, have been obliged to shoulder arms and exchange these in place of the biretta, the office desk for the horse, the pen for the rifle, and all for the glorious flag of Spain, which we have sworn like you to die for rather than see it humiliated. (Great applause and Viva Spain). We are not playing at soldiers; we are defending the country and our lives. (Frantic applause). Spain conquered this land, thanks to the incomparable efforts of Juan de Balcedo, the strategy and tactics of Martin de Goiti, and the sound policy of the patriotic Miguel Lopez de Legaspi. From time immemorial, after each truce, after each profession of friendship, followed a rising. (Voices, "It is true; it is true." Silence, silence). Our beloved country was able to say to these people, because we have the Divine right and the force of our arms, like the poet said to the Turks:— "Vile slave of vile Constantinople, I will bind thee with my chain and I will crush thee with my might." (Great applause).—But no, we did not do this. We raised them to the condition of cavaliers, the sons of those ruffians who came from China, we made their posterity noble and slew the yellow necks of their most deadly enemies. We have made them doctors, lawyers, chemists, engineers, soldiers, and even ministers of religion, and they in return, not troubling themselves to rectify the instincts of their race, bite the

hand which caressed them, they rise up against a nation which has enriched them and which has made them pass in three hundred years, in a less period than any other nation, that long voyage which commences in a savage and ends in civilization. (Great and deafening applause). Tell me now if they have any cause for rising, for having made them human beings out of savages—(Hear, hear). If some native troops were not dying side by side with us, we might become desperate and abandon the civilizing influence carried on by our fathers. But dying side by side with us they redeem their caste and become worthy of our respect and our love. To these heroes I drink. Soldiers! You belong to a grand nation, not like the rest of them who count their days of glory by the victories they obtain, but by the reverses we suffer. The heart of every true Spaniard is prouder of the disasters of Sagunto, Numancia, Otumba, Zaragossa, and the 2nd of May, than the taking of Antwerp, the siege of Milan, the battle of Cerinols, and the victory against the Tralvatecas. It seems that victory always bows to the flag of red and gold, which without doubt we have placed in our emblem to show that in the hour of need neither gold nor blood has any value for us. (Enthusiastic and frantic applause). Well, gentlemen, I think we must rectify our history and begin to count our days of glory according to results. If you accept my thoughts, drink with me for the triumph that is near at hand; for the victory we shall gain the day that our valiant troops go out to the campaign led by such brave officials, to whose health I drink and invite you also to drink. (Thundering applause).

Many other speeches of the same kind were given, but the foregoing serves to give an idea of the whole.

ALPHA.

SUPREME COURT.

21st October.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR DR. CARRINGTON
(CHIEF JUSTICE.)

THE MANSLAUGHTER IN QUEEN'S ROAD.

Lam Hung, a ricksha builder, was charged with the manslaughter of an assistant in a ricksha builder's shop in Queen's Road East. Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General) prosecuted and the prisoner was undefended.

The following jury were sworn—Messrs. Cheng Peng U, E. A. Haroon, R. T. Gribble, V. J. Remedios, A. Abdooabrah, F. M. de Jesus, and E. M. Roberts.

The jury found the prisoner guilty and recommended him to mercy. He was sent to prison for three months.

23rd October.

THE CAUSEWAY BAY MURDER.

Chun Tai Yun and Wong Tong Shui were charged with the murder of Ho Tsui Sang at Causeway Bay on the 19th September.

Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General), instructed by Mr. Johnson (Crown Solicitor), appeared for the prosecution and Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne (instructed by Mr. Reece) defended the prisoners, who pleaded not guilty.

The following gentlemen composed the special jury:—Messrs. C. A. Tomes, H. L. Dalrymple, Fung Wa Chun, N. A. Siebs, J. H. Garrells, R. K. Leigh, and E. W. Mitchell.

The Acting Attorney-General explained the facts of the case and said that the two prisoners were jockeys employed at Mr. Kennedy's stables, Causeway Bay. Both came from the north, while the murdered man, Ho Tsui Sang, was a Hakka man and was employed as a mafoo. On the evening of 19th September, about seven o'clock, the two prisoners went on board a sampam which was lying a few feet from the shore at Causeway Bay and smoked cigarettes. About a quarter of an hour afterwards Ho Tsui Sang and three Hakkas, who were also employed as mafocs, went on board. Ho Tsui Sang asked a woman and her daughter who were in the boat to take them for a row in the harbour, but the sampam women said they could not as the sampam was licensed to carry only six passen-

gers. Ho Tsui Sang then got rather demonstrative and said he had 200 cash to pay the women. Then the first prisoner said he had 200 cash and he ought to be taken for a row because he got into the boat first. Some kind of altercation then took place between Ho Tsui Sang and the first prisoner as to which of them should go for a row. The mistress of the sampam in her evidence would say that Ho Tsui Sang said to the first prisoner "I'll beat you to death," and that thereupon the first prisoner hurriedly left the boat and went ashore and he was followed by the other five men. The two prisoners went quickly into the stables and immediately came out again. Ho Tsui Sang and Chan Tsui San (who was also murdered, but whose case the jury were not concerned with) were walking ahead, and when the prisoners came up to them the first prisoner set upon Ho Tsui Sang and the second prisoner set upon Chan Tsui San, with the result that both the men attacked were stabbed to death. The prisoners then injured the other two men who had been in the boat and they then separated. The first prisoner went to Mr. Kennedy's stables and saw Mr. Bailey, to whom he said "I have stabbed three or four men at Causeway Bay." He then produced a knife with which he said he had committed the attack and mentioned that the men had punched him. In regard to the second prisoner, the prosecution suggested that there must have been some concert between the two prisoners; that they must have had an agreement to attack the four men, as it was almost impossible to conceive that they would independently have come to the conclusion to stab the four men. Therefore, as his Lordship would doubtless point out to the jury, if these two men did agree to stab the four Hakka men, and if in the course of the attack Ho Tsui Sang was killed and the first prisoner was the man who inflicted the blows which caused the death, the second prisoner would be equally guilty of the murder of Ho Tsui Sang.

Evidence was then called. As the witnesses and the prisoners spoke different dialects three interpreters were employed, the Court interpreter interpreting the witness's evidence, Mr. Salas interpreting on behalf of the first prisoner, who spoke Mandarin, and Inspector Quincey for the second prisoner, who spoke the Shanghai dialect.

24th October.

At the conclusion of the case for the prosecution Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne addressed the jury on behalf of the prisoners and said that in regard to the first prisoner he asked the jury to say that the injuries were inflicted in self-defence. At most the case was one of manslaughter. The knife used was not a deadly weapon; it was only a penknife; and the act was not pre-meditated nor was it the result of malice. There was no evidence to show that the second prisoner was concerned in the affray and counsel asked the jury to acquit him.

The Acting Attorney-General (Hon. H. E. Pollock) submitted that there was nothing in the evidence which could induce the jury to reduce the crime from murder to manslaughter. He also contended that both were acting in concert and therefore were equally guilty.

His Lordship summed up and first of all pointed out that the essential ingredient of the offence of murder was malice and the jury must be satisfied there was malice before they could convict. His Lordship then closely reviewed the evidence.

After an absence from court of twenty minutes the jury unanimously returned a verdict of guilty of murder against Chan Tai Yun and a verdict of not guilty against Wong Chun Shun.

His Lordship.—Mr. Attorney, you have another indictment against the second prisoner?

The Acting Attorney-General.—Yes, my Lord, and against the first. With regard to the first prisoner I ask that a *nolle prosequi* be entered on the other indictment.

His Lordship.—Let the second prisoner be taken down.

The second prisoner was then removed.

His Lordship then sentenced the first prisoner to death. At the conclusion of the interpretation of the sentence the condemned prisoner

remarked to Mr. Salés, the Mandarin interpreter, "I am not guilty, my Lord. I did not stab any one."

26th October.

Wong Chuen Shun was charged with the murder of Chui Tsui San at Causeway Bay on the 19th September.

Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General), instructed by Mr. A. B. Johnson (Crown Solicitor), prosecuted and Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne (instructed by Mr. Reece) defended.

The Acting Attorney-General asked his Lordship's leave to amend the information by striking out the name of Chun Tai Yun, who was on Saturday found guilty of the murder of Ho Tsui San.

His Lordship consented to the amendment.

Mr. Melbourne.—I object to the amendment, my Lord. By striking out the name of Chan Tai Yun the prisoner is prejudiced. We contend that it was Chan Tai Yun who murdered this man as well as the other.

His Lordship.—How can that prejudice the prisoner? He was to have been tried with another man and now he is to be tried by himself. How does that affect him? Have you any authority to show?

Mr. Melbourne.—No, my Lord.

His Lordship.—I do not think it will prejudice the prisoner.

Mr. Melbourne.—I have now a preliminary objection to make, my Lord—not a legal objection, but a technical one. It is that the prisoner was practically acquitted on Saturday for taking part in the wounding and murdering and the jury must have come to the conclusion that he took absolutely no part in the attack.

His Lordship.—What is the objection to trying him on this count?

Mr. Melbourne.—That the jury in the former case found that he was not guilty—that he took no part in the affray.

His Lordship.—In the murdering of another man.

Mr. Melbourne.—They must have come to the conclusion that he did not murder this man and that he did not take any part in the murder.

His Lordship.—Why did you not put in a plea of acquittal?

Mr. Melbourne.—Because this is not a legal objection.

His Lordship.—Mr. Melbourne, I do not think you can successfully raise that point. The prisoner was tried on Friday and Saturday for the murder of Ho Tsui Sang and on that charge he was acquitted by the jury. He is now charged with the murder of another man. Surely these are distinct offences. We do not know what operated in the minds of the jury. They might have come to the conclusion that this man was not responsible for the killing of the other, but that the evidence pointed to his connection with the killing of the second deceased. I think the offences are clear and distinct, and the acquittal on the charge of murdering one man does not necessarily mean that he is acquitted on the charge of murdering this man.

The Acting Attorney-General said he had reason to believe that the learned counsel's statement as to what operated on the minds of the jury was not correct.

The following gentlemen were then called to serve on the special jury:—Messrs. G. de Champeaux, Ho Fook, N. J. Ede, D. G. Brown, W. H. Ray, A. J. Rozario, A. S. Hooper.

Mr. M. S. S. Sassoon was called, but he did not appear and his Lordship directed that he should attend the Court at the adjournment.

The Acting Attorney-General then explained the facts of the case, first of all asking the jury not to take the other case into account in any way. Two witnesses would prove that the prisoner stabbed Chiu Tsui San, who was killed, and then stabbed a second man and severely wounded him.

After the adjournment Mr. Sassoon, the absent jurymen, attended before his Lordship and explained that he did not know he had to attend the Court and the mistake was due entirely to a misunderstanding between him and the Assistant Registrar.

His Lordship accepted the explanation and allowed Mr. Sassoon to leave.

After hearing evidence the Court adjourned.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held at the office on the 22nd October. Hon. F. A. Cooper (Director of Public Works) presided and there were also present—Hon. F. H. May (Captain Superintendent of Police), Dr. Ayres (Colonial Surgeon), Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

REVOCATION OF BY-LAWS.

The Colonial Secretary wrote that His Excellency the Governor consented to the revocation of by-laws 8 and 9 made under subsection 6 of section 13 of Ordinance 24 of 1887 and made on the 18th October, 1894. The letter was in response to an appeal by the night soil coolies and the by-laws referred to the election of a Committee of not more than twelve in number to represent the men, such Committee to assist the Board in exercising a strict supervision over the carriers.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by the COLONIAL SURGEON, it was resolved to revoke the by-laws.

PROPOSED REMOVAL OF THE DISINFECTING STATION.

The Medical Officer of Health called attention in a letter to the dilapidated condition of the wooden building in High Street containing the steam disinfecting apparatus and of the fencing surrounding it. In view of the necessity for extensive repairs he suggested that the Board should forward to the Government a recommendation that the machinery be removed to Kennedytown or to some other more suitable site.

The COLONIAL SURGEON said an idea had got about that the disinfecting station was a great nuisance and that it created an awful stink. He had been explaining that the station had been within ten yards of the hospital sisters' quarters and close to Caine Road during the last five years. There was a very small amount of smoke and the place was absolutely inoffensive.

It was resolved to forward the Medical Officer of Health's letter to the Colonial Secretary, with the request that it receive the favourable consideration of His Excellency the Governor.

SMALLPOX IN THE HARBOUR.

Dr. Jordan, Health Officer, reported that on the 15th inst. a Japanese sailor on board the *Mike Maru* was found to be suffering from smallpox. He was removed to the hospital and instructions were given for the disinfection of the ship and she was allowed to proceed at once to Kobe. The Health Officer also reported a case on board the *Benvorlich* from Yokohama.

A SATISFACTORY INSPECTION.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH reported that an all night inspection of the night soil boats was made on the 17th to 18th inst., with the result that 224 of the night soil coolies were found to be using the regulation bucket issued by the Board and ten only were using buckets of the old type.

CHOLERA AT SINGAPORE.

The Colonial Secretary at Singapore forwarded a return of cases of cholera at Singapore. From the 22nd to the 29th Sept. there were thirty cases, of which twenty-one died, and from the 29th Sept. to the 6th inst., there were forty-four cases, of which twenty-nine were deaths.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended 10th October the death rate was 23.9 as compared with 22.7 for the corresponding period of last year. For the week ended 17th October the death rate was 15.3, as compared with 24.2 for the corresponding week of last year.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Board adjourned till next Thursday week.

The Osaka Savings and Shimanouchi Banks having suspended payment the credit of other banks has been markedly affected. So serious is the outlook that the other bankers in Osaka are considering what steps can be taken to avert a crisis. A few days ago they met in the Union Bankers' Hall to discuss the subject.

—Kobe Herald.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At a monthly meeting of the Committee held at the Chamber Rooms, on 22nd October, —Present: Messrs A. McConachie (Chairman), H. Smith (Vice-Chairman), J. J. Bell-Irving, N. J. Ede, N. A. Siebs, T. H. Whitehead, and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

THE VACANCY ON THE COMMITTEE.

The question of appointing a member to the seat on the Committee vacated by Mr. Dodwell was considered, and it was decided to defer action until the return of a former member, shortly expected.

THE CHAMBER'S REPRESENTATIVE ON THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Read letter from Colonial Secretary, dated 25th Sept., informing Chamber that H.E. the Governor had appointed Mr. Whitehead, subject to Her Majesty's pleasure, to be unofficial member of the Legislative Council.

NEW MEMBERS.

It was announced that the following new members had been elected during the month:—Mr. A. R. Marty, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and Mr. Paul Jordan.

THE INCREASE IN TELEGRAPH RATES.

It was announced that, in pursuance of the decision come to at last meeting, copies of the report of the proceedings at the special meeting of the Chamber, held on the 19th September, to protest against the sudden increase of their rates to Europe, America, and Shanghai by the joint Telegraph Companies, were printed and forwarded, with covering letters, to the Acting Manager Joint Telegraph Companies, Her Majesty's Minister at Peking, the Hongkong Government, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the Government of India, and 14 other Governments, the London Chamber of Commerce, the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce and 128 other Chambers in various parts of the world; the China Association, Hongkong Branch; The China Association, London; the Straits Settlements Association, London; also ten (10) copies to each Consul (eleven) in Hongkong, for distribution.

Read letter from Acting Manager, Joint Telegraph Companies, dated 7th Oct., making further reference to the question of half-rate telegrams in the Chinese character. A formal acknowledgement had been sent on day of receipt. It was decided to publish the letter.

Also read letter from Singapore Chamber, dated 30th Sept., making further reference to Chamber's letters of 12th and 28th idem, and stating that the Committee, having considered the matter, had addressed a letter to the London Chamber urging that the question of the revision of the tariff of rates for telegrams between the East and Europe be again taken up. Copy of said letter enclosed. Resolved to publish correspondence.

THE PROPOSED INCREASE OF CHINESE IMPORT DUTIES.

A letter having been addressed on the 1st October to the Shanghai Chamber in consequence of the communication from the Shanghai branch of the China Association handed by the Hon. Secretary of the local branch to this Chamber, giving assurance of readiness of the Committee to act in harmony with Shanghai on the question of the proposed revision of the Chinese tariff, a reply from the Acting Secretary of that Chamber was read, in which the Committee of the Shanghai Chamber expressed satisfaction at finding the Hongkong Chamber in accord with them on the subject.

THE OPENING OF THE WEST RIVER.

Read letter from Foreign Office, dated 18th Sept., acknowledging receipt by Lord Salisbury of Chamber's letter of 4th August asking to be informed what progress had been made in the negotiations for the opening of the West River, and saying his lordship is well aware of the importance of the matter, which will be duly kept in view.

(Correspondence.)

HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD'S APPOINTMENT.
Colonial Secretary's Office,
25th September, 1896.
Sir,—Adverting to your letter of the 19th in-

stant, I am directed to acquaint you, for the information of the Chamber, that His Excellency the Governor will have great pleasure in appointing provisionally and subject to Her Majesty's pleasure, Mr. T. H. Whitehead to be an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

THE INCREASE IN TELEGRAPH RATES.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
29th September, 1896.

J. M. Beck, Esq., Acting Manager in China,
Eastern Extension and Great Northern
Telegraph Companies.

Dear Sir,—I am desired by my Committee to hand you enclosed copy of report of the proceedings at a special general meeting of the members of this Chamber, held on the 19th inst., for the purpose of protesting against the recent increase by your Companies of their charges for telegrams, and to ask you to kindly forward same to your directors.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
29th September, 1896.

Sir,—I am directed by my Committee to forward, for your Excellency's information, copies of the report of a special general meeting of the members of this Chamber, held on the 19th inst., to protest against the action of the Joint Telegraph Companies in raising their rates, immediately on the conclusion of the Convention with the Chinese Telegraph Administration.

I would specially call your Excellency's attention to the second resolution, regretting the action of Her Majesty's Government in having assented to the Convention without any notice to those chiefly concerned, more specially after this Chamber had been led to understand that, if negotiations on the subject were renewed, some reference would be made to it before the Convention received sanction.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

To His Excellency Sir Claude M. MacDonald,
K.C.M.G., H.B.M.'s Minister in China.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
29th September, 1896.

Sir,—I have the honour to forward to you, for the information of His Excellency the Governor, copies of the report of the proceedings at the special general meeting of the members of this Chamber, held on the 19th inst., to protest against the action of the joint Telegraph Companies in suddenly, on the 1st August, raising their rates 37½ per cent. to Europe, 43.26 per cent. to America, and 100 per cent. to Shanghai.

Copies of the report have also been forwarded to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

To Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Colonial
Secretary.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
29th September, 1896.

My lord Marquess,—I have the honour to enclose herewith, for your lordship's information, copies of the report of a special general meeting of the members of this Chamber, held on the 19th inst., to protest against the action of the joint Telegraph Companies (viz., the E. E. A. & C. Telegraph Company and the Great Northern Telegraph Company) in raising their charges—37½ per cent. for Europe, 43 per cent. for America, and 100 per cent. between Hongkong and Shanghai—almost simultaneously with the ratification of the Convention with the Chinese Telegraph Administration on the 31st July, without notice to their constituents.

I beg respectfully to call your lordship's attention to the second resolution passed at the above named meeting, and at the same time to express the profound regret felt not only in

this colony but by the foreign communities in China that Her Majesty's Government should have sanctioned the ratification of this Telegraph Convention after the assurance given to this Chamber in 1890 that such Convention would not be ratified without previous reference to those interested. The rates charged prior to the 1st August had enabled the Telegraph Companies to pay handsome dividends and to amass enormous reserve funds; any change in the tariff therefore should rather have taken the opposite direction with a view to encourage the traffic. With the addition to the rates now imposed, business will be considerably handicapped and probably greatly restricted.

The hope of this Chamber now lies in the establishment of direct telegraphic communication to America, by means of a cable across the Pacific, via Honolulu, to Vancouver or to San Francisco. In the event of a Canadian line to East Asia being definitely projected, the British communities in the Far East earnestly trust that Her Majesty's Government will afford to such enterprise every possible support and assistance, not merely out of the natural desire to see healthy competition, but also because thereby would be secured the completion of the electric belt around the world.—I have the honour to be, my Lord, your most obedient humble servant,

A. McCONACHIE,
Chairman.

To the Most Noble The Marquess of Salisbury,
K.G., &c., Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 3rd October, 1896.

Sir,—I am directed by my Committee to forward, for the information of your Government, copy of the report of a special general meeting of the members of this Chamber, held on the 19th September, to protest against the action of the Eastern Extension and Great Northern Telegraph Companies in having, immediately upon the ratification on the 31st July last, of a Convention between them and the Chinese Telegraph Administration, raised their rates, without notice to their constituents, to the extent of 37½ per cent. to Europe, 43 per cent. to America, and 100 per cent. between Hongkong and Shanghai.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

To the Hon. the Secretary of State for Finance
and Commerce, India.

Also to fourteen other Governments.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 3rd October, 1896.

Dear Sir,—I beg to forward herewith copy of the report of the proceedings at the special general meeting of the members of the Chamber, held on the 19th September, to protest against the action of the Eastern Extension and Great Northern Telegraph Companies, in having, immediately on the ratification of a Convention between them and the Chinese Telegraph Administration, raised their rates to Europe 37½ per cent., to America 43 per cent., and between this colony and Shanghai 100 per cent., without notice to their constituents.

My Committee hope that your Chamber will take up the question of telegraphic rates and lend all the assistance in your power to any scheme for laying a cable across the Pacific either from some point in Canada or the United States, via Honolulu and Japan, to China and this colony, in order that the cost of means of communication may, by the influence of a healthy competition, be reduced to a point that will promote trade between Europe and America and the Far East instead of its being restricted, as at present, by needlessly high rates.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

To the Secretary, Shanghai Chamber of Commerce.

Also to 129 other Chambers and to the various Branches of China Association and Straits Settlements Association.

The Eastern Extension, The Great Northern
Australasia and China Telegraph Company
Telegraph Company, of Copenhagen.
Limited.

Hongkong Station,

2nd October, 1896.

R. Chatterton Wilcox, Esq., Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Dear Sir,—I have to thank you for your letter of the 29th ult. enclosing a copy of the report of the meeting of your Chamber on the 19th ult. which I will forward by next mail to my directors in London, as desired.—I am, dear sir, your faithfully,

J. M. BECK,
Acting Manager.

The Eastern Extension The Great Northern
Australia & China Telegraph Company
Telegraph Company, of Copenhagen.
Limited.

Hongkong Station,

7th October, 1896.

R. Chatterton Wilcox, Esq., Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Dear Sir,—With further reference to the question of half rate telegrams in the Chinese figure code and to the correspondence published in the Shanghai papers of 1st instant, I think it will be convenient to again point out that—

1st.—Such telegrams are only permitted as far as the Chinese Telegraph system extends.

2nd.—That they should be compiled from the authorised Vocabularies, which provide ten thousand characters only, available for transmission.

3rd.—That these Vocabularies are intended to be used for plain language only, and

4th.—That the use of these Vocabularies is open to all senders, irrespective of nationality.

—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

J. M. BECK,
Acting Manager.

7th October.

J. M. Beck, Esq., Acting Manager Eastern
Extension Co., Great Northern Telegraph
Co.

Dear Sir,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favour of this date making further reference to the question of half rate telegrams in the Chinese figure code and the correspondence in the Shanghai papers of the 1st inst., and will lay same before my Committee.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce,
Singapore, 30th Sept., 1896.
Telegraph Rates.

Dear Sir,—Referring to my letters of 12th and 28th ultimo, I have now to inform you that your letters therein acknowledged were considered by the Committee at their monthly meeting on 26th instant.

Recognizing the severe tax imposed on all Eastern trade by the present tariff, they consider that co-operation on the part of the Indian, China, and Straits Chambers with a view to a general reduction of the tariff is urgently called for, and have addressed the London Chamber to that effect. Copy letter enclosed.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

ALEX. JAS. GUNN,
Secretary.

The Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of
Commerce, Hongkong.

Chamber of Commerce,
Singapore, 30th Sept., 1896.

Telegraph Rates to the East.

Sir,—This question has again been raised by a recent increase in the tariff for China.

The Hongkong Chamber has protested against the change in rates, particulars of which you will learn from the enclosed copies of their letters and protest, and is seeking for the co-operation of the Singapore and Penang Chambers.

My Committee would take this opportunity of again referring to the excessive rates (see letter of 14th Oct. last) paid by this colony—higher, as you will observe, than even the enhanced rates of which Hongkong complains as "most excessive and quite out of all proportion to any reductions ever made."

They are strongly in favour of a general reduction of the Tariff, and they fear that *ex-parte* demands for special concession may only retard that desirable issue. They would therefore venture to suggest that the matter

should again be taken up by your Chamber with a view to more combined action on the part of India, China, and these Settlements for a general lowering of rates.

At the same time they feel bound to point out that the expedient you suggested of Government being asked to guarantee in whole or part the Telegraph Companies against any loss of revenue consequent on such reduction is in regards this colony quite impracticable—I am, &c.

A. J. GUNN,
Secretary.

Kenric B. Murray, Esq., Secretary, London Chamber of Commerce, Botolph House, Eastcheap, London, E.C.

CHINESE TARIFF REVISION.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
1st October, 1896.

Geo. D. Scott, Esq., Acting Secretary, Shanghai Chamber of Commerce.

Dear Sir,—The Hon. Secretary of the local branch of the China Association having courteously handed to this Chamber a copy of the letter received from the Shanghai Branch to the effect that the Committee of that Association and your Committee met on the 2nd ult. and agreed upon joint action in connection with the question of proposed revision of the Chinese Customs tariff, and it being therein stated that it was understood copies of the minutes of such meeting would be forwarded to this Chamber by you, my Committee has, in order to save time, directed me to address you on the subject.

My Committee desires me to assure you that they are quite ready to act in harmony with your Chamber and the China Association with regard to the suggested increase in the import duties. From the first this Chamber has taken up the position that no concession should be made to China unless the Government of that country is prepared to abolish lekin and to make the one duty imposed on landing frank the goods throughout the Empire. This is the view, I understand, taken both by your Chamber and the China Association, and though apparently not likely to be favourably regarded by the Chinese Government, it is the only basis on which negotiations for a revision of the tariff should be entertained.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

R. CHATERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce,
Shanghai, 15th October, 1896.

R. Chatterton Wilcox, Esq., Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Increase of Duties.

Dear Sir,—I am requested to acknowledge your letter of the 1st inst., from which my Committee learn with satisfaction that your Chamber is in accord with them on the above question. I enclose two copies of the minutes of the special meeting held here on the 2nd ult. between my Committee and that of the China Association and of representatives of local cotton mills.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

GEO. D. SCOTT,
Acting Secretary.

THE WEST RIVER.

Foreign Office,
September 8th, 1896.

Sir,—I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th ultimo on the question of opening the West River and other inland waterways of Kwangtung to foreign trade and steam navigation.

I am to inform you that Lord Salisbury is fully aware of the importance of the matter, and that in negotiations now going on it will be duly kept in view.—I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

FRANCIS BERTIE.

The Chairman, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

Founded on fact—and fiction.—A veterinary surgeon on his way to the Far East was discussing with a passenger the prospects of Shanghai. "What sort of a place is it for ponies?" queried he. "Don't know much about the ponies," was the reply, "but it has capital roads for bicycling!"—*N. C. Daily News.*

HONGKONG BRANCH OF THE NAVY LEAGUE.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Hongkong Branch of the Navy League was held on the 23rd October at the City Hall. Mr. A. Coxon presided and there were also present—Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Mr. A. McConachie, Captain Anderson, Messrs. G. Sharp, H. A. Ritchie, A. M. Marshall, G. Stewart, N. J. Ede, J. McGregor Forbes, and H. N. Mody.

The CHAIRMAN—Before I ask you to pass our report, which I hope you will take as read, I will tell you in as few words as possible what we have done during this our first year of existence. A somewhat voluminous correspondence has passed between the head office of the Navy League and this branch, which members are welcome to peruse at any time they think fit. We have forwarded copies of the two letters from Hon. Mr. Chater to H.E. the Governor of the 13th November, 1894, and 16th September, 1895, advocating the extension of our frontier on naval lines. Your Committee has most strongly brought to the notice of the Navy League the great and growing necessity for the re-enactment of the Contagious Diseases Act, and we have every reason to hope and expect that that Act will be law again before long. We have drawn the attention of the League to the present unsatisfactory working of the Royal Naval Reserve under the Board of Trade, in so far as our colonies are concerned. Up to a short time ago no time expired Royal Naval Reserve man could resume his engagement in this or any other colony, but I am glad to say that this has been rectified quite lately. The fact still remains that no A. B. seaman or officer can join the Royal Naval Reserve except in England. I think that the members will agree with their Committee that in our colonies the working of the Royal Naval Reserve should be placed under the control of the Admiralty, giving the Commander-in-Chief of the Station, or the Senior Naval officer, the power to enroll both officers and men. Some interesting tables have been compiled and forwarded to the head office of the League—for which we have to thank Captain Hastings and other members of your Committee—showing the estimated value of shipping and cargoes afloat on any given day between Singapore and the ports of China and Japan touching at Hongkong, and of vessels touching at Singapore that did not call at Hongkong. To this must be added 234 river steamers, aggregating 261,263 tons, plying to Canton and Macao to and from Hongkong, making a total of 2,471 British ships, of 3,328,788 registered tonnage, or a daily average of 82 ships, measuring 110,959 tons, afloat. Taking £10 a ton as a fair valuation for ship and cargo, £1,109,590 are exposed to daily capture in our waters by an enemy. (Applause.) I presume that you have all read your *Navy League Journal*, and many of you have studied Brassey's Naval Annual, or that part of it which deals with the progress of the British Navy. It says, "The clouds which from time to time of late have passed over our relations with foreign Powers have done good service to the British Empire in one respect at any rate; they have compelled citizens, not only in the mother country, but in the colonies, to recognise the vital importance of the Navy to their security." Perhaps the most salient feature of the naval work of late has been the unexampled speed with which vessels have been constructed in our dockyards, and there seems every reason to suppose that the records established will not only be maintained in the future, but even in some cases broken. At the same time it is somewhat disquieting to reflect that although we may have the ships and the money we still lack the men to man our fleet in its entirety. The personnel of the Navy has been increased during the past nine years by 31,000 men, but it has by no means kept pace with its requirements. To increase its number and efficiency requires money, and to this end the League is endeavouring to loosen the pursestrings of the British Public and prove to them what an excellent investment it is even should it tend toward extravagance. Why should the School Board have that monopoly? With this object in view the Navy League is working tooth and nail. In July last the

the Secretary of the League—Mr. Moncrieff Wilson—visited Liverpool, and he induced the Chamber of Commerce there to call a special meeting for the purpose of hearing an address from Lord Charles Beresford on the "Manning of the fleet," a report of which you will have seen in the August number of the *Navy League Journal*. The result of that meeting was that the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce sent to all the leading Chambers of the country, 45 in number, and to 20 shipowners' societies, a special letter containing a copy of the resolution passed at the meeting, and has further asked them to give it their support. The same course has been taken with political leaders, and the London and Provincial press have taken the matter up. The question was again considered at the meeting of the Associated Chambers of Commerce at Southampton on the 15th of last month. I will, with your permission, read the resolution passed at the meeting—"That this meeting having heard Lord Charles Beresford's serious statements with regard to the manning of the Navy and the condition of the Naval Reserves, hereby desires to express its sense of the grave dangers of our present position, and urges Her Majesty's Government to at once institute a full enquiry into the whole question of the manning of the Fleet, the Royal Naval Reserve, and the Mercantile Marine, with a view, if necessary, to definite legislative proposals next year, including a suitable provision in the estimates. This meeting further resolves that copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Prime Minister, the First Lord of the Admiralty, the Earl of Rosebery, and the leaders of both sides in the House of Commons, and that the secretary be instructed to write to the Chamber of Shipping of the United Kingdom, shipowners' societies, and the chambers of commerce, calling their attention to the resolution, and asking them to take the matter up and give it their support." Now the upshot of this was that a branch of the League was established in Liverpool and a committee of very leading and influential men elected, viz.—Colonel T. M. Sandys, M.P., F. C. Danson, Esq., President Chamber of Commerce, W. A. Williams, Esq., President Underwriters' Association, J. E. Gray Hill, Esq., A. W. Bibby, Esq. (the Bibby Line), Francis Henderson, Esq. (the Anchor Line), Nelson Cameron, Esq., Joseph Houl, Esq., Alfred Jones, Esq. (the African Line), and Samuel Cross, Esq. Hon. Secs.—Vernon B. Hammond, Esq., and Donald A. Stewart, Esq. On the 22nd of May last Mr. Francis gave us a very interesting and highly instructive lecture on the Navy and the Navy League, and the objects it has in view. We hope that he may be induced to repeat it before long. (Applause.) On Wednesday, the 21st inst., the several branches of the League at home celebrated the 91st anniversary of the battle of Trafalgar and your Committee sent the following telegram to the head office of the League—"Hongkong Branch unites in honouring this day." (Applause.) I ask you now, gentlemen, to pass our first report, the adoption of which I beg to propose.

Mr. H. N. MODY.—I beg to second.

Captain ANDERSON—Mr. President and gentlemen, I think it will be a matter of congratulation to the other members of the League when they come to read the speech that has just been made by our worthy President. (Applause.) I must confess that when I looked at the report I thought nothing had been done. I think we are all agreed that the Navy League is an institution to which we should give our hearty support. (Applause.) Our very existence in this colony depends upon the Navy. I think it is generally conceded that our ships are the finest that could be built for the money and the naval officers are a body of men which could not be surpassed anywhere in the world. I think it will be found that in other places the branches of the Navy League have given prominence to the weak points in their own localities. Of course we do not want to dictate to the authorities. As Admiral Fremantle took great care to point out, a self-constituted body like the Navy League could not be permitted to dictate the policy, but we can point out the weak points and if necessary we can advocate the adoption of constitutional means to effect a remedy until such time as public opinion compels the authori-

ties to take action. (Applause). I was very gratified to hear from the President that the League has taken up the question of the defence of the colony on naval lines. It seems to me that there are two weak points of the first magnitude in this colony—the Chinese territory on the north side of our harbour and the south shores of the island itself, which, as the public know, are at present absolutely undefended. I do not know that it is necessary to say very much more on the matter. I have a lively recollection of what took place during the last Russian scare. Our orders from home came one day and were countermanded the next and the Commodore's hands were bound by red tape. It is to be hoped that the influence of the Navy League in the future will prevent the recurrence of such a blunder. (Applause.) I have been very much gratified myself by the words which have fallen from our worthy President. (Applause.)

The resolution was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—The next business is to elect a Committee. I regret the absence of our hon. Secretary to-day. He is serving his country in another place. Mr. Mitchell desires to relinquish his duties and I am sure the Branch is very much indebted to him for what he has done for us. The Hon. Mr. Pollock has kindly consented to take over the duties of the secretaryship should he be elected a member of the Committee. (Applause.) The present members of the Committee are—Captain Hastings, Captain Tillett, Messrs. J. J. Francis, Q.C., A. M. Marshall, G. Stewart, E. Osborne, E. W. Mitchell, R. Cooke, and A. Coxon.

Mr. RITCHIE proposed the re-election of the Committee, with the addition of Mr. Pollock.

Mr. EDZ seconded.

Carried.

Mr. SHARP—I think, Mr. President, as we are here to-night and have lost the opportunity for our walk which we should have enjoyed to take—in fact, I think it was a great mistake appointing five o'clock for our meeting, as it excludes a large number of people from attending—but as we are here I think we may say a little in encouragement of this institution which we have joined and of those who are connected with the British Navy. I feel a strong timidity in touching upon home politics. It is a matter we have been so little connected with that it seems to be rather strange and unfamiliar. This is really a *bona fide* political meeting and it is almost unprecedented in Hongkong. We are so busy, so pressed. I suppose there is not a man at this meeting and there are not half a dozen in Queen's Road who, during six months of the year, are not really pressed almost beyond measure, and we have so little time to think of home matters and naval and military matters, and if they were not brought prominently before us by the presence of their representatives in Hongkong they would almost be forgotten. I confess myself that on Tuesday last when I sat down to breakfast and saw the last two numbers of the *Navy League Journal* lying upon the table which had not been opened I thought to myself, "Dear me! Do we really want a Navy League in Hongkong? Have we not enough to attend to without it? There is the meeting this afternoon." I took up those two magazines, opened them, and I read them through, and my feelings and my heart were changed altogether. I do not think there is anything which brings us into closer sympathy and oneness of heart with our home land than the reading of the contents of these monthly magazines. I believe there is no place in the world, no port in the world, where naval and military men are more cordially received than they are here, and I feel that it is our duty, and it should be one of the effects of this Society, to strengthen the hearts of those men who come out here to fight Britain's battles should the necessity arise. (Applause.) Ever since the days of Jardine, Matheson & Co., and Dent & Co., when each rivalled the other in keeping open house in princely fashion for the army and navy, down to the present time, there has been that generous hospitality and kindly feeling for our naval and military friends, and I am sure we shall do good and feel we have done good if we can encourage the heart of our Admiral Buller and our Commodore

Holland in the discharge of their duties and those of all their subordinates. I have read with much pleasure the address which our President referred to by Lord Charles Beresford before the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce. I think the spirit of it, sir, is most admirable. There is no unkindly feeling expressed at all; all is modest and gentle and careful. There are points of weakness to which Captain Anderson has referred and some which Lord Charles Beresford has taken hold of and which cannot be too strongly and deeply impressed upon the public mind. He says that we are sixteen thousand men short of our actual requirements and, including ships which are building, we are no less than 27,500 men short of our actual requirements, and whereas in the old times fishermen could be made into sailors in twelve months or two years, now it takes five to seven years to make a steam man-of-warman, and therefore urgency must be marked in all matters connected with the manning of the British Navy. He says in one line—"We owe our riches and our strength as an Empire to our enterprising merchants and our mercantile marine, and this should be defended by the Navy. What we wanted was British seamen on both fleets." That is all he says upon that important point which has been brought so prominently forward in the Australian colonies and other parts of the world—the question of employing wholly British seamen on board the mercantile marine. He says we want British seamen on both fleets, and the question arises whether in the face of that £50,000 by which the services of the mercantile marine are subsidised in time of war, there should be some discrimination in the bounties which are granted for the employment of wholly British seamen; but in order that he may not cause any offence he says in the same breath that restrictions are most injurious to commerce and therefore we must avoid restrictions unless we can put the same restrictions upon foreigners simultaneously. I think there he is very right and good. I can only hope that the words of the Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain will be fulfilled, that the British Empire in its gradual and sure extension will become a more potent factor for the promotion of the peace and civilization of the world than any Empire the world has ever known, and I think the Navy League, Mr. President, will help towards that blessed consummation. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN—I beg to thank you for your attendance. That is all the business.

Mr. FORBES proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was unanimously carried, and the proceedings concluded.

REVIEWS.

Heroic Japan: A History of the War between China and Japan. By F. WARRINGTON EASTLAKE, Ph.D., and YAMADA YOSHI-AKI, LL.B., Principal of the Chautauquan Association of Japan. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., Yokohama, Shanghai, Hongkong, and Singapore.

THE compilation of this volume, we are told in the preface, has been an undertaking of great magnitude. The authors have aimed at absolute accuracy; every word in the book has been thoroughly and repeatedly revised by the authorities concerned, and several chapters have thus been written and re-written six and even more times. We are told, too, that the authors are "fully aware of the defects in a work of this kind." The defect that strikes us most strongly is the absence of literary skill. Heroic deeds should be told in heroic language; let the language be as simple as you please, exact and unexaggerated, and yet the skilful author will so frame the narrative as to inspire in the reader an enthusiasm in some measure commensurate with the heroism of the act narrated. There is little of that in the book before us. What form the narratives may bear in the original Japanese we do not know, but in the translation they fall almost entirely to touch the imagination of the reader.

The primary object of the book is to give a collection of individual deeds of heroism during the war. These have been divided into groups, each preceded by a description of the battle or particular operation in connection

with which the deeds were performed. In addition to the narration of military exploits, we have at the end several chapters on such subjects as the Japan Steamship Company, the Bank of Japan, and the Red Cross, and in appendices are given the text of the treaty of peace, the Japanese text of the war songs, and other matters connected with the war. The work is profusely illustrated, portraits being numerous.

Monsieur Paulot. By HUBERT E. H. JERNINGHAM. Author of "Reminiscences of an Attaché" and "Diane de Bretenille." London: J. Fisher Unwin.

THE latest addition to the popular Century Library is interesting not only for the tale itself but for the clear cut picture it gives of French life in the provinces. It is a tale of the simple-hearted devotion of a plain man, and the contrast drawn between M. Paulot and Count Amédée is very effective. Mr. Jerningham's readers will also derive a little information as to the working of the French law of inheritance in certain directions, but perhaps the majority will consider that portion of the book a trifle tedious.

Twenty Lessons on the Development of the voice for Singers, Speakers, and Teachers. By GEORGE THORP. London: Robert Cooks & Co.

A VERY useful little manual, with exercises for developing the various organs employed in producing vocal sounds, and explanations of the functions of each of these organs. Mr. Thorp is evidently at home with his subject and has a facility for imparting his knowledge and making the subject plain. The lessons, we are told, "are not written to take the place of an instructor, but to demonstrate to the student that there are resonators and resonance chambers in the body which must be developed or made use of before the voice has its fullest natural power."

ILLEGAL ARREST BY THE CHINESE L. GATION.

The following Renter's telegrams have been received:—

LONDON, 23rd October.

A sensation has been caused in London by a Chinese doctor called San Yat Yen, who it is stated has been concerned in a conspiracy in Canton to overthrow the dynasty. It appears that he has been imprisoned since the 11th instant in the Chinese Legation in London. It is reported that he was inveigled thither by the Chinese and that he has managed to secretly inform his friends of his detention. Detectives are watching the Legation day and night to prevent his clandestine removal to China.

LONDON, 23rd October.

Lord Salisbury in a sharp note demanded the immediate release of Dr. San Yat Yen, whose real name is Sun Wen. In the afternoon an official of the Chinese Legation handed Dr. Sun Wen over to the Foreign Office, reserving the question of diplomatic rights.

[Dr. San Yat Yen was born in Honolulu. His family belongs to the Heungshan district, near Macao. He returned to China at an early age and received the first part of his medical education at Dr. Kerr's Hospital, Canton, and afterwards came to Hongkong and studied at the Hongkong College of Medicine. He then went to Tientsin and while there addressed a long letter to Li Hung-chang on the necessity of reform. After this he returned to Macao, where he opened a shop for the sale of foreign drugs, and then went to Canton and established himself in practice as a doctor. He was there at the time of the abortive attempt at rebellion in October, 1895, in connection with which six hundred coolies went from Hongkong to Canton. After this he came down to Hongkong and remained here about ten days. Some months ago he was reported to be in New York.]

News has reached Sourabaya that the firm of Martin Brothers, at Glasgow, has suspended payment from losses in sugar speculation. The *Locomotive* says that Martin, Greig and Co., the Java branch of the firm, has, in consequence, gone into liquidation at Samarang and Sourabaya.—*Straits Times*.

THE BENNETTZ CASE.

It would seem that the Chinese are not as sure of their ground as they were in the Bennertz case. It has been whispered for some time that the Taotai at Chinkiang had orders to give up the *Sin Fokien*, but that the Commissioner of Customs having once, in the exercise of his authority, confiscated the steamer, was unwilling to let her go again. Now we hear that the same Commissioner is endeavouring to find out whether Messrs. Bennertz & Co. are willing to pay a fine of Tls. 500 for their technical and unavoidable breach of the regulations, and take their steamer back, which is rather an ingenuous suggestion, considering that Messrs. Bennertz & Co. are claiming Tls. 300 a day for her detention. Meanwhile two other steamers are detained at Shanghai by the Customs, the only reason alleged being the arbitrary will of the Taotai, and Messrs. Bennertz & Co. are not even allowed to land their own coal from one of them. The evident purpose of the Chinese has been to starve out Messrs. Bennertz & Co., who, while an endeavour is being made to ruin them, are comforted by the assurance that they will get full compensation sooner or later. Now the Chinese have suggested that the Taotai's legal adviser and Mr. Bennertz's counsel should meet together, go through the accounts, and agree on the amount due and by whom. At the same time the suit brought by the Emperor of China in Hongkong is progressing.—*N. C. Daily News.*

PIRACY AND MURDER NEAR GREEN ISLAND.

AN ARREST.

The discovery of the naked body of a man near the West fort at Stonecutters' Island on Friday has led the police to establish a most startling case of piracy and murder near Green Island. The body was found on the rocks near the water's edge and the terrible and numerous gashes upon it left no room for doubting that murder had been committed. The police made very extensive enquiries and ascertained that the crime was the outcome of a most daring act of piracy on the part of nine men. It seems that the deceased and two men owned a fishing boat and on Thursday last they left Lamma Island about noon for Hongkong. After about half an hour's sailing, and when near Green Island, they were met by two boats, one containing five men and the other four men, and the single boat was suddenly sandwiched between the assailing boats. A bloody encounter followed. Several of the pirates boarded the boat, armed with sticks and swords, and mercilessly attacked the three fishermen. The first one wounded—he was cut about various parts of the body—jumped overboard and swam safely away. A second man—the deceased—also sought refuge from attack by jumping into the sea, but unfortunately he was unable to get clear away and the pirates picked him up, put him on board their boat, and backed him to death. Then they threw his body into the water again and it was carried on to the rocks at Stonecutters' Island. The third man decided to remain on board and it is a wonder that he, too, was not served like the second man. The murderers contented themselves with leaving him in a helpless condition after using him in a very rough fashion by beating him with sticks. The oars were taken from the boat and 130 catties of fresh fish were stolen, and the craft was then left to drift, while the pirates scooted off in their boats. Meanwhile the man who first made his escape succeeded in reaching the shore and he was taken to the Government Civil Hospital where his wounds were attended to and he was detained as an in-patient. The boat was picked up about an hour after the affray near Lap Sap Wan and the man in it was brought in in a very weak condition. From enquiries made by the police they heard on Saturday that one of the murderers was in a house in the district of Akung Ngau, Shaunkwan. Inspector Butlin deputed detective U Po and two other detectives to visit the house and at four o'clock in the afternoon they arrested a man there who has been identified from amongst twelve men as having taken part in the murder. The prisoner was taken before Hon. Commander

W. C. H. Hastings on Monday and after evidence of the arrest had been given the case was remanded until this afternoon in order that it might be determined whether the murder was committed in British or Chinese waters.

THE SPECIAL COURT OF TAIWAN CLOSED.

The Special Court of Taiwan, which was instituted with a view to examine the cases connected with the late disturbances and which sat at Changwha, was closed on the 30th of September last. The number of cases brought before the Prosecutor amounted to 421 in all, but he decided to proceed against only seventy-two, and as there was no case against the remainder they were discharged. Of the seventy-two committed for trial fourteen died before the trial took place, so that only fifty-eight were actually tried. Only fourteen of them were found guilty and they were sentenced respectively, two to death, three to imprisonment for life, four for eleven years, one for ten years, two for nine years, one for five years, and one for three years, the remaining forty-four being acquitted.

CRICKET.

OVER 30 v. UNDER 30

"Age will perform the promises of youth."—

RAESLAR.

A beautiful day, an early muster, and keen rivalry rendered cricket very enjoyable last Saturday. Despite the fact that 30 was rather a high age at which to draw the line and was all in favour of those in the third decade of years, the "patras conscripti" of local cricket gained a well earned victory and reversed the result of last season's game. Before 11.30 a.m. operations began by Smith and Ferguson defending against the attacks of Gillingham and Davies. Smith played carefully and saw Ferguson, Johnston, and Morcom go, the last named falling to a quick piece of fielding by Ward, whose performances loomed large throughout the match. At 72 the judge, when seemingly well set, tried to "work" a straight long hop at the leg and paid the penalty for his attempting such a country stroke. Eccles, who had meanwhile gone in, hit hard as usual, showing respect for Vallings alone. Langhorne did not assist much, being stumped by Arthur, who showed capital form behind the sticks. Mast helped Eccles to add 30 to the score before he was taken by Ward running from long off to the screen and bringing off a brilliant catch. With the last ball before tiffin Eccles's dashing innings—the delight of the spectators and the terror of the fieldsmen—came to a close and comprised amongst other items six fours and two sixes. After the interval, Dyson appeared quite comfortable with the bowling, from which he scored steadily, receiving considerable aid from Inchbald, whose 9—insignificant perhaps on paper—meant a good stand which was of decided value to his side. Anderson brought up the rear and 200, but accomplished less than he intended, Dyson carrying out his bat for 35. In bowling, Vallings and Davies were most successful: in fielding, Ward, Campbell, and Thresher were safe and smart, and behind the sticks Arthur was admirable, and would be more admirable if he could restrain himself from putting down the wicket so often. About 3 o'clock Boden and Campbell started for the juniors, but with hardly satisfactory results, as both fell to Smith before 20 was registered. However, on Thresher and Ward getting together, things warmed up, both men putting a lot of power into their strokes and bringing on the score rapidly. But after nearly 40 had been added, Mast had the Rifle Brigade man caught in the slips for a vigorous 18. On Holland joining Ward another stand looked imminent, but a judicious change of bowling worked the oracle, Mackenzie getting Holland c and b. Vallings, Anderson, and Gillingham were easy victims, the first named being run out, a result for which the judge held both sides to blame. In Mounsey, Ward found a useful partner, who helped him to carry the figures from 104 to 150, when the organist put a twister from Eccles's sixth

ball of his only over into cover point's hands. It was a pity that the batsman did not restrain himself when in easy hail of his century, but rashness is said to be a characteristic of youth. For Ward's display we have nothing but praise and congratulate him on his success. His driving was hard, his cutting of a superior order, and his defence sound. As we criticize only to assist, we may say that his most dangerous stroke is his square leg, one of which he is evidently fond. Up to 60, he gave no chance, but after that his career should twice have been cut short at the wickets. Enough has been said to justify the belief that in this player the Club has gained a sound batsman and—which is equal cause for congratulation—a reliable field. Mast bowled with great steadiness and his figures do not represent his merits at the fullest. The fielding of the Over 30 was commendable in spite of the stiffness engendered of age, and the side was well captained. To play out time, the ancients batted a second time and lost 5 wickets for 65 runs "amid the encircling gloom."

Next Friday and Saturday the Club will encounter the Rifle Brigade, when a good match is expected. May we express a hope that taipans will stretch a point in favour of allowing their assistants to join the Club ranks on so important an occasion? Further, notice is given that to-morrow (27th October) the ground will be closed to practice, because the Garrison and the Rifle Brigade will be trying conclusions on that day.

Appended are the score and analysis:—

OVER 30.		Second Innings.	
First Innings.			
T. S. Smith, b Davies	35		
Capt. Ferguson, R.B., c			
Anderson, b Davies	5	not out	6
Sur-Major Johnston, b			
Vallings	8	l.b.w., b Vallings	21
W. Morcom, R.N., run out	9		
Capt. Eccles, R.B., c Camp-			
bell, b Thresher	68		
Capt. Langhorne, R.A., st.			
Arthur, b Vallings	2	c Thresher, b Vallings ..	9
E. Mast, c Ward, b Vallings	11		
Capt. Dyson, not out	35	c Thresher, b Campbell ..	8
A. Mackenzie, c and b			
Vallings	4		
A. Anderson, b Davies ..	5	st. Arthur, b Vallings ..	15
C. Inchbald, c Thresher, b			
Davies	9	c Ward, b Vallings	0
Extras	10	Extras	6
201		Total for 5 wks. 65	

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

First Innings.				
	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Davies	17	5	54	4
Gillingham	19	4	64	—
Vallings	21	4	47	4
Thresher	6	3	8	1
Boden	4	—	12	—
Anderson	5	2	6	—

UNDER 30.

A. D. Boden, R.B., b Smith	0
G. D. Campbell, H.K.R., c Mast, b Smith ..	10
A. G. Ward, c Ferguson, b Eccles	90
J. H. Thresher, R.B., c Smith, b Mast ..	18
S. E. Holland, R.B., c and b Mackenzie ..	6
Rev. G. Vallings, run out	1
P. G. Anderson, H.K.R., b Mast	1
J. R. Gillingham, b Mackenzie	4
K. W. Mounsey, b Mast	15
P. G. Davies, R.A., b Smith	0
H. Arthur, not out	0
Extras	12

157

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

First Innings.				
	Overs.	Mdns.	Runs.	Wkts.
Smith	12	3	40	3
Mast.....	15.4	4	48	3
Muckenzie	7	—	36	2
Langhorne	2	—	13	—
Eccles	1	—	8	1

MACAO.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

22nd October.

The condition of the streets in this colony is now perfectly disgraceful. When the streets were in charge of the Public Works Department of the Government they used to be kept in proper order, repairs being made to the roadway as they were required. When the control passed to the Local Senado the same state of things continued until lately, because the Director of Public Works was retained also

for municipal works and things went on much as before. In May last, however, a misunderstanding arose between the Leal Senado and the Director of Public Works, who thereupon resigned his appointment as a municipal officer and another officer, a very young man, was appointed in his place. Since then the streets have been allowed to fall into a shameful state of disrepair. They are mostly macadamised and the surface wants dressing occasionally to keep it smooth, but since May I have not seen a single basket of gravel or earth used, and the surface having been washed away nothing but loose stones remain; so that it is horrible to have to ride over them in a ricksha, the jolting being enough to make one sick, and if one walks the stones are almost enough to sprain one's foot. A great deal has been done at the Travessa do P. Narciso; it is true, and engineers from all over the world would be interested if they could see the work. A pavement of sand and cement was laid and the street was closed for two months to let the cement dry well and harden, but now, after it has been opened only two weeks, it is all broken up and destroyed, the cement having been laid in such a way as to be useless, not owing to any fault in the material, but to a want of knowledge how to use it. We have some streets here paved with stones; these pavements are strong and last for a long time without repair, but they are not good for driving over and have other inconveniences. In most other towns concrete or macadam is used and large amounts are spent annually on the maintenance of the roads, but here the Leal Senado seems to think that when once the streets are made they will last for ever and require no more looking after. No doubt, H.E. Senor Horta e Costa will observe the ruinous condition of the streets, and, remembering how much has formerly been spent on them, will object to seeing it all wasted for want of a little care. His Excellency is an engineer and will therefore understand the matter.

I mentioned in a previous letter that the Lisbon Government had issued a notification prohibiting gambling on the part of public officers in the African colonies. H. E. Senor Horta e Costa was at home at the time and requested that the order should be extended to Macao. The Minister replied that Macao had not been included because he was afraid such an order might affect the Government interests, as the gambling monopolists might claim that it altered the conditions upon which they took the Farm. His Excellency thereupon requested the Minister to give him permission to take action in the matter on his arrival if he found that anything could be done, and the request was granted. On his arrival, therefore, he lost no time in the matter, but invited the gambling monopolists to Government House, explained that he wished to prohibit fantan gambling on the part of Government servants, and having ascertained that the monopolists would raise no legal objection, he made the necessary order, which was published in last Saturday's *Boletim*. The ability with which the Governor has carried this matter through is worthy of all praise. The order is to the effect that public servants are forbidden to play fantan and that any one infringing the order, no matter what his position, will be immediately suspended from duty. The police authorities are charged to be vigilant in detecting infringements of the order. The police will do well to discharge their duty in this matter thoroughly, for watchful eyes will be upon them. The new order has been received with satisfaction by a large section of the public, who will not willingly see it allowed to become a dead letter.

The transport *Africa* arrived here on the 16th inst. from Timor. She is commanded by Commander A. de Sergio e Souza. It is reported that she is to take home the time expired crews of the gunboats *Bengo* and *Diu*. The gunboat *Bengo*, Commander Talone da Silva, arrived on the 20th inst. from Timor.

A Chinese cashier formerly in the employ of the late Chow-Jao, on Monday night fired twice with a revolver at the fifth wife of his deceased master, but luckily neither shot took effect. The man ran away, but was arrested and sent to the barracks, where he was placed

in a cell. He was to have been brought up for trial the next day, but he cut matters short by hanging himself. He used his girdle as a rope, attaching it to the window bars.

HONGKONG

Beautiful weather has prevailed during the past week. On Thursday the Sanitary Board met and on Friday the annual meeting of the Hongkong Branch of the Navy League was held. Crime has been somewhat prominent in the colony lately. On Saturday a man was sentenced to death for a murder at Causeway Bay and now the police are busy investigating a case of piracy and murder near Green Island. One arrest has already been made.

There were 2,233 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 223 were Europeans.

Hon. H. E. Wodehouse, Police Magistrate, has been granted extended leave of absence to 15th April next.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that Her Majesty has approved of the appointment of Mr. Wei Ayuk as an unofficial member of the Legislative Council.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that the Queen's warrant appointing the Hon. C. P. Chater and Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving to be unofficial members of the Executive Council has been received.

Mr. Whiting, Chief Constructor at the Hongkong Naval Yard, has been appointed to Malta. Mr. Whiting's successor is Mr. G. Black, who at present holds the appointment at Bermuda.

At the Police Court on Monday a man was charged with stealing various goods.—Prisoner: I did not steal the goods; I was only carrying them for the thief. The Magistrate—That's near enough—three months.

The Registrar-General's returns of births and deaths for the first, second, and third quarters of the present year are published in the *Gazette*. For the last quarter the birth rate for the British and Foreign community was 30.35 and the death rate 25.61, while for the Chinese the birth rate was 3.23 and the death rate 18.29.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that H. E. the Governor has been pleased to appoint, provisionally, and subject to Her Majesty's pleasure, Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving to be an unofficial member of the Legislative Council in succession to Mr. J. J. Keswick resigned. Mr. Bell-Irving has hitherto been sitting in the Council as Mr. Keswick's *locum tenens*.

At the Police Court on Saturday Police Constable Wright (86) was complimented by the Magistrate on his prompt action in rescuing from drowning two sailors belonging to the *Pique*. On Friday night the men, who were drunk, fell into the water near the new Hongkong Club. A Chinaman hurried to Pedder's Wharf and informed Wright of the occurrence. The officer at once took a sampan and succeeded after great difficulty in rescuing the men. They were locked up and on Saturday each was fined \$1 for being drunk and disorderly.

There was an amusing incident at the Criminal Sessions on Monday. Two sampan women who had given evidence in the first murder case were called into court for the purpose of being identified. The interpreter asked one of them her name and she said "Chiu Kau," which means "the same as before." Owing, probably, to faulty pronunciation on the part of the woman the interpreter concluded that the answer was the name of the woman and he gave it as such. The woman seemed to see a joke in this and she grinned and then gave a proper reply.

A football match was played on Monday between the Hongkong Football Club and F. Company, R.B. The kick-off took place at a quarter to five with full teams present on time. Davies captained the Club. In the first half the play was at each goal alternately and both custodians had to handle to clear. After half-time the play grew faster and a smart run by the Club's left wing ended in Anderson scoring, and, later, the Riflemen did the same. One all. The game then resolved itself into a duel between the backs, in which Davies made some good attempts at scoring, but without result. A fast and thoroughly pleasant game ended in a draw—one all.

H.E. the Governor leaves for a short trip to Shanghai this week.

Mr. L. Noronha, who lives at 11, Remedios Terrace, had a very narrow escape from death on the 23rd October. He was awakened about four o'clock by a peculiar noise and he went downstairs to ascertain the cause of it. Just as he got below, the roof of his bedroom fell in with a loud crash and completely smashed the bed which he had just left. There were other inmates in the house, but fortunately they were untouched.

On Monday afternoon Mr. J. L. Prosser sold by auction two lots of Crown land at the north of Bowen Road. The first lot contains 52,875 square feet and the second lot 65,500 square feet. The annual rental of each is \$360 and the upset price was \$4,000. The only bidder was Hon. C. P. Chater, who purchased each lot for \$20 above the upset price on behalf of the Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited.

His Excellency the Governor's vegetable garden is to be removed to the west of its present position. Just now the large-heart cabbages and the juicy carrots are growing on a plot of land close to the Bowen Road tramway station, but the builders, who have no soul for vegetables, require the land for the erection of house property and so the aforesaid cabbages and carrots and other luscious delicacies have to find a new home a little to the westward and near the nullah. We hope his Excellency's table will not suffer by the change. There is a great demand for building sites along the Bowen Road and we understand that all the available ground will shortly be put up for auction.

On Friday afternoon about one hundred girls of the English Division of the Belilios Public School were entertained by the Hon. E. R. and Mrs. Belilios at their Peak residence. A sumptuous luncheon, followed by numerous means of amusement and refreshment provided in the gardens, kept the children in a round of ecstasy and delight till darkness set in. At the close of the festivities one of the girls expressed to Mrs. Belilios the thanks of the School in a few timorous words of feeling, supported by lusty ringing cheers for the generous host and hostess, who crowned the happiness of the party by presenting each of their visitors with a little parting gift in the form of a valuable souvenir. The thanks of parents, teachers, and children are due, not only to Mr. and Mrs. Belilios, who gave the children so many hours of unalloyed enjoyment, but also to the Directors of the Tramway Company for the gratuitous conveyance of the large party, as well as to the Superintending Engineer, Mr. Wylie, who took great pains in ensuring the safety and comfort of the children during the trip up and down.

On the 21st October, amidst a scene of solemn impressiveness, the remains of Major G. K. Moore were interred at the Happy Valley with full military honours. The procession which was a very long one, started from Wellington Barracks at four o'clock and was headed by a detachment of the Hongkong Regiment. Then followed the Royal Engineers, the Royal Artillery, the firing party, the gun carriage which bore the coffin and which was drawn by men of the Rifle Brigade, a detachment of the Rifle Brigade, men from the warships in the harbour, and last followed the officers of the Garrison, at the rear of whom were His Excellency Major-General Black and Captain Sterling, A.D.C., who represented His Excellency the Governor. Many official and private residents also joined the procession, among them being His Honour Dr. Carrington (Chief Justice), members of the Perseverance Lodge, of which the deceased was a Past Treasurer, and Masons of other lodges. The procession walked at a slow march to the cemetery, the band of the Rifle Brigade playing Beethoven's funeral march. On reaching the cemetery gates the firing party formed a double line and then brought up the rear of the procession. The service in the church was very affecting and the scene at the grave-side, where a large concourse of people gathered, was most solemn. After the coffin, which was covered with many magnificent wreaths, had been lowered into the grave the firing party fired the usual military salute.

The police are making enquiries about a curious shooting accident which was reported to them on the 23rd October as having occurred on Thursday morning in Taikoktsui Bay. A fishing boat woman received a stray bullet in her right thigh while she was on her boat, and the missile passed through the flesh and then penetrated the woodwork of the boat. She was attended to at the hospital and now the police want to know where the bullet, which is of the new Magazine rifle pattern, came from. In the morning a company of the Rifle Brigade was on the old military 800 yards range, and the Royal Engineers, the submarine miners, and a number of blue-jackets were also engaged in shooting practice, and it is surmised that the bullet came from one of these parties.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The indent for 200,000 sleepers, opened at the Railway Head Office on the 1st of this month, has been given out as under:—30,000 American red-wood sleepers to Messrs. Buchheister & Co., and 170,000 Oregon pine sleepers to Messrs. Mandl & Co., these being the two lowest tenders. The American red-wood tender, we learn, is only a trial shipment to see how that particular kind of wood will last in China.

—Peking and Tientsin Times.

The Japan cricketers left Shanghai amid general regret at 4 p.m. on Saturday, 17th October, by the Whangpoo to join the Melbourne at Woosung. The N. C. Daily News says:—There was a considerable gathering of their friends, among them being Sir Nicholas, Lady, and Miss Hannen, at the jetty to see them off, some of our cricketers accompanying them as far as Woosung. They left amid a volley of cheers, and will be very welcome when they come again to Shanghai.

A collision took place at Woosung on the 18th October between the Wingsang, bound for Hongkong and Canton, and the Oscarshah, for Newchwang. The Wingsang, in passing the Norwegian steamer, struck her on the port bow, denting several of her plates. After ascertaining that the Oscarshah required no assistance the Wingsang proceeded on her voyage, the former returning to Shanghai. It was found the Oscarshah was not damaged sufficiently to necessitate immediate repairs, and she proceeded to sea, postponing docking until her return.

At Shanghai, at about eleven o'clock on Thursday night, 15th October, a Russian woman named Tartarakoi rang the bell at Messrs. Moutrie and Co.'s store in Nanking Road, and on the door being opened by one of the boys, rushed upstairs into one of the rooms on the first floor, locking the door and crying out that some one was following and molesting her. On some of the inmates of the house trying to force their way into the room, the unfortunate woman jumped through the window into the street. She was picked up and conveyed to the General Hospital, where it was found that one of her feet was completely shattered and that she had sustained other more or less serious injuries.—N. C. Daily News.

A remarkable case of suicide through grief occurred in Yang-tze-lee, North Szechuen Road, Shanghai, on Sunday morning, 18th October. A Cantonese named Leang Yu-pu, aged 36, a native of Heung-shan district, near Macao, formerly an officer on one of the Chinese torpedo boats which took part in some of the naval engagements against the Japanese, was dismissed by Admiral Ting from the Chinese navy, and came direct to Shanghai to join his wife, and try some less perilous pursuit for a living. Arriving in Shanghai at the latter part of last year, the Chinese warrior fell seriously ill, and eventually shuffled off this mortal coil early on Sunday morning. His wife, having no children, and being greatly depressed over her spouse's demise, immediately took an overdose of opium, and succumbed by this favourite Chinese mode of ending her sorrows. The news of the touching and tragic episode attracted a large number of visitors to the place, where the luckless couple ended their story. Both bodies were buried the following afternoon, their remains being followed by their sole attendants—a poor Chinese female servant and a jiriksha coolie.—China Gazette.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao	4,20,151	5,752,099
Shanghai and Hankow	15,550,878	16,519,418
Foochow	11,517,247	8,518,499
	31,688,276	30,790,016

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai	10,582,197	22,858,697
Amoy	8,892,548	7,967,866
Foochow	1,181,222	1,608,212
	20,656,007	32,434,775

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow	22,925,118	27,040,68

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	21,473,889	27,157,671
Kobe	10,440,354	15,901,788
	31,914,243	43,059,454

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 23rd October.—(From Mr. A. B. Burkill's circular)—London advices to 21st current quote a quiet market, Gold Kilns 8/6, Blue Elephant 10/6. Raw Silk.—The market has remained exceedingly dull during the whole of the week, prices have not given way, but there is an uneasy feeling amongst holders owing to the prospect of dear money in the immediate future. Tsatlens.—Settlements barely aggregate 400 bales at quotations. Taysams are scarce and as very full prices are asked by holders, transactions are restricted in consequence; settlements 40/50 bales. Yellow Silks.—Supplies are small and good quality in any class commands a further advance; settlements about 100 bales. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns 15th to 31st current, 1,939 bales White, 216 piculs Yellow, and 21 piculs Wild Silk. Filatures and re-reels are almost entirely neglected. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is as follows:—To London 2 bales, to Continent 798 bales, and to America 261 bales. Waste Silk.—500/2,000 piculs have been booked this week. The following prices have transpired:—Curles No. 1 Tls. 61, Curles 1, 2, 3 Tls. 56½, Tusah Waste 1 and 2 at Tls. 29½ and 25½. Frisonnets Hankow and Szechuen at Tls. 17½ to 19, according to assortment.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1896-97	1895-96
	bales.	bales.
Canton	12,152	8,118
Shanghai	20,071	34,659
Yokohama	3,676	11,355
	35,899	54,132

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	bales.	bales.
Canton	716	5,508
Shanghai	515	4,631
Yokohama	3,274	13,017
	4,505	23,156

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 27th October.—There is no change to report in the position of this market. Quotations for Formosa are \$48.50 to \$49.00. During the week sales have been 170 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 27th October.—The market is very weak and a further fall in prices has to be recorded. Following are the quotations:—

Shakloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.18 to \$7.20 per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.40 to 6.42 "
Shakloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.47 to 4.52 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.30 to 4.38 "

Swatow, No. 1, White...	\$7.18 to \$7.16 per picul.
do. " 2, White...	6.45 to 6.47 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.35 to 4.38 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.20 to 4.28 "
Soochow Sugar Candy...	10.78 to 10.82 "
Shakloong	9.42 to 9.45 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The steamer Java, Hongkong to Buenos Aires, 17th October, took:—100 packages Tea; for Manchester:—100 bales Waste Silk; for London:—11,111 boxes Tea (232,281 lbs. Scented Caper, 1,050 lbs. Scented Orange Pekoe), 100 packages Tea (Unknown), in transit, 1,250 bales Hemp, 350 bales Waste Silk, 50 bales Canes, 100 rolls Mats and Matting, 100 cases Preserves, 1,299 cases Preserves, 49 cases Chinaware, 48 cases Blackwoodware, 24 cases Aniseed Oil, and 13 cases Sundries.

The steamer Dardanus, Hongkong to London, 15th October, took:—4,896 boxes Tea (4,800 lbs. Congou, 100,716 lbs. Scented Caper), 200 bales Waste Silk, 184 bales Pierced Cocoons, 310 bales Canes, 460 rolls Matting, 78 cases Cigars, 4 cases Blackwoodware, 6 cases Gongs, 14 cases Chinaware, 8,217 cases Preserves, 175 cases Ginger, and 29 packages Sundries; for London option Manchester:—150 bales Waste Silk; for Glasgow:—274 cases Ginger, and 3 packages Sundries.

The German steamer Irene, Hongkong to Odessa, 12th October, took:—200 cases Cassia Lignea; for Havre:—1,114 rolls Matting, 17 cases Bristles, and 34 bales Canes; for Havre option Hamburg:—15 cases Paper, 33 cases Chinaware, 1 case Silk, 340 rolls Matting, and 503 cases Camphor; for Havre option Hamburg option London:—150 bales Split Bamboo; for Havre option London:—49 cases Camphor; for Hamburg:—7 cases Camphorwood Boxes, 23 packages Tea, 334 packages Preserves, 120 cases Preserves, 26 rolls Matting, 1 case Bambooware, 85 bales Feathers, 154 packages Canes, 5 boxes Essential Oil, 85 cases Palmleafs, 635 packages Fire Crackers, 161 cases Gallnuts, 1,250 cases Cassia; 10 packages Battenware, 300 cases Camphor; 2 cases Earthenware, 2 cases Soy, 4 cases Bristles, 170 bales Galangal, and 17 packages Sundries; for Hamburg option London:—100 cases Camphor; for Antwerp option London:—40 cases Bristles; for London:—21 cases Bristles, and 100 rolls Mats; for Lisbon:—3 cases Silk and Chinaware; for New York:—10 cases Essential Oil.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 27th October.—Bengal.—There has been a falling off in the demand during the period under review, and prices have declined to \$730 for New Patna, \$750 for Old Patna, and \$715 for New Benares.

Malwa.—Old descriptions have continued in demand whilst new have been neglected. The following are the latest quotations:—

New (this yr's) 730 with allances of 1/4 to 5/4 cts.	
" (last yr's) \$750	0 to 2 "
Old (2/3 yrs.) \$770	1/4 to 2 "
Old (4/5 yrs.) \$790	0 to 1 1/4 "
Older (6/9 yrs.) \$820	0 to 2 1/4 "

Persian.—There has been nothing doing in this drug during the past week. Current quotations are \$550 to \$630 for Paper-wrapped, and \$540 to \$580 for Oily according to quality.

To-day's stocks are given as under:—

New Patna	1552 chests
Old Patna	40 "
New Benares	280 "
Malwa	467 "
Persian	437 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1896.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Oct. 22	736 1/2	750	752 1/2	—	730/770	790/820
Oct. 23	737 1/2	750	752 1/2	—	730/770	790/820
Oct. 24	735	750	752 1/2	—	730/770	790/820
Oct. 25	735	750	752 1/2	—	730/770	790/820
Oct. 26	730	750	745	—	730/770	790/820
Oct. 27	730	750	745	—	730/770	790/820

RICE.

HONGKONG, 27th October.—A further advance in prices has to be reported. Arrivals are small. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.42 to \$2.45 per picul.
" Round, good quality	2.62 to 2.64 "
" Long	2.77 to 2.80 "

Siam Field mill cleaned, No. 2	\$2.83 to 2.85
Garden, No. 1	2.32 to 3.35
White	3.44 to 3.47
Fine Cargo	2.55 to 2.57

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 27th October.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn.—75 bales No. 6 at \$66.50 to \$67.50, 860 bales No. 10 at \$67.50 to \$68.50, 410 bales No. 12 at \$78.10 to \$84.32, bales No. 16 at \$84 to \$92.50, 475 bales No. 20 at \$93 to \$99.50. **White Shirtings.**—300 pieces Gold Tiger at \$5.90, 600 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.75, 500 pieces B. at \$5.15. **T-Cloths.**—600 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Red Dragon at \$2.25, 300 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Silver Dragon at \$2.35, 750 pieces 6 lbs. Bombay at \$1.67, 300 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Double Feeling at \$2.85. **Turkey Reds.**—210 pieces 3 lbs. Mandarin at \$1.62, 225 pieces 14 lbs. Dragon at \$3.87. **Long Ells.**—200 pieces 8 lbs. Scarlet at \$6.60, 750 pieces 9 lbs. 5 Clock at \$7.05. **Camlets.**—100 pieces Assorted 9 Old Men at \$17.90.

SHANGHAI, 22nd October.—(From Messrs. Noel Murray & Co.'s Piece-Goods Trade report.)—To importers the period just closing has been dreary in the extreme, as their sales have been very few and of little moment, while clearances, more particularly of English makes, have not been satisfactory. There appears to be no demand whatever and the position seems all the more strange when we consider that the season of 1896 will soon be closing. It is doubtful if the market has ever been in this state for many years past and it is difficult to assign any reason for it; the Chinese will not buy the goods and importers have to wait until they feel inclined to begin again. From every dependency the advices received have been discouraging. Tientsin still feeling the tightness of money and Newchwang appears to have taken all she wants in the meantime, excepting special makes of Heavy Grey Shirtings. There is a rumour that the Tientsin and Chefoo dealers have issued orders to buy where cheapness is to be found, but looking at the paltry settlements one cannot place any reliance on it, but conclude that their emissaries are rather too much "on the cheap." The river ports are all quiet, although a fair quantity of Indian Yarn is said to have been booked for Hankow. So limited has been the week's business the auctions have to be taken as the indicators of prices which would appear to be still favouring buyers.

Metals.—(From Messrs. Alex. Biefield & Co.'s report.)—23rd October:—Beyond a few small transactions in Lead, etc., between natives, Metals have been neglected for some time past, and, as regards Sundries, the Chinese have more stock in hand of all kinds than has been the case for the last 20 years. Lead has been resold at Tls. 5.30 per picul. Copper Sheathing.—80 cases have changed hands at Tls. 25.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

TUESDAY, 27th October.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/1 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	2/1 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/1 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/2
ON PARIS.	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.67
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.73
ON GERMANY.	
On demand	2.16
ON NEW YORK.	
Bank Bills, on demand	51 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	52 1/2
ON BOMBAY.	
Telegraphic Transfer	172 1/2
Bank, on demand	173 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.	
Telegraphic Transfer	172 1/2
Bank, on demand	173 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.	
Bank, at sight	72 1/2
Private, 30 days' sight	73 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.	
On demand	par.
ON MANILA.	
On demand	15 1/2 % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.	
On demand	par.
Sovereigns Bank's Buying Rate	9.34
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	48.90

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, October 27th.—The market has continued dull and inactive, with rates still inclining to weakness, and I have nothing of any importance to report.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai, with a further fall in the London rate to £41 10s., still further weakened here to 187 per cent. premium, at which rate a few shares changed hands. On time a few unimportant transactions for December at 190 and for January at 193 have taken place. The market closes weak at 187 per cent. premium. Nationals have been taken off the market at \$26 1/2 and close steady at that rate. The Bank of China and Japan has issued a circular to its shareholders in which it states that the Bank is making considerable progress and that the last six months' working has covered the expenses of running.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have found further buyers at \$76. Unions have changed hands at \$235. Cantons are still in demand at \$184, but, beyond a few small lots which have changed hands, are not procurable. Straits have been enquired for in a small way and have been placed in small lots at \$27 1/2. Yangtzes and North Chinas have ruled quieter with sales at the lower rates of \$150 and Tls. 192 1/2 respectively.

FIRE INSURANCES.—The market has been fairly active and rates strong. China Fires in the early part of the week changed hands at \$96 1/2 and \$97, but the demand exceeding the supply the rate quickly rose to \$97 1/2 and at time of writing buyers would in all probability pay \$98. Hongkongs have been done at \$339 and close steady at that rate.

SHIPPING.—Stocks have ruled dull and generally with declining rates. Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboats, owing to unfounded or at any rate uncorroborated statements of rumoured opposition on the river, have declined to \$32.75, after sales in the early part of the week at \$33 1/2 and \$33; a fair number of shares changed hands at the higher rates, but at time of closing sellers rule the market at \$33 and until the opposition scare has worn off and proved itself to be only one of the periodical false rumours that crop up occasionally, higher rates cannot be looked for. Indo-Chinas have ruled very much firmer and shown more activity than for some time past. The demand, chiefly if not entirely from Shanghai, has resulted in a fair number of sales at \$43 1/2 to \$44 1/2 cash and at from \$44 1/2 to \$46 1/2 for March next. The market closes steady at \$44 cash. Douglasses have continued dull and neglected; a small sale is reported at \$55, but sellers at that rate have ruled the market for the week under review. China and Manilas have remained dull and unchanged without business. China Mutuals are still offering at quotations.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have ruled much weaker since date of my last and sales have been effected as low as \$134; at time of writing sales at \$135 and \$136 have taken place, but sellers at the latter rate rule the market. Luzons have again declined to \$48 after ruling weak and with no sales between \$56 and that rate; sellers rule the market and lower rates are anticipated.

MINING.—Punjoms have ruled very steady with fair sales at \$11 1/2 and \$12 for cash and at \$12.50 to \$12.60 for January. Reports from the mine are more favourable and the market closes steady at quotation. Preference shares are in demand at \$3.70, but holders in anticipation of an early dividend do not seem inclined to part. New Balmorals have again changed hands at \$1.60 and \$1.75 and more are wanted at the former rate without finding sellers. Jebebus, after the issue of an unsatisfactory report for half-year ending August, 1896, showing a debit balance of \$6,781, have ruled very weak, holders vainly endeavouring to part at \$2 1/2. Raubs continue in favour and have been enquired for at \$6.25 without leading to business.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have continued quiet but steady with small sales at 223 for November, 225 for January, and 227 and 228 for February; the cash rate has remained steady at 218 per cent. prem. with few if any sales. Kowloon Wharves have again changed

hands at \$58 1/2, closing with sellers. Wanchais have found buyers at the advanced rate of \$46 cum div. and close steady at \$45 ex div.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue to change hands at \$75 1/2 and \$76, closing steady at former rate. Humphreys Estates have found further buyers at \$9 and \$8 1/2, but sellers continue to rule the market at former rate. West Points have again been negotiated at \$19 and \$18 1/2.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands sold at \$17 1/2. A. S. Watsons after small sales at \$12.80 are procurable at \$12.75. Hongkong Electric have found buyers at \$6.80, \$6.85, and \$6.90, closing with sellers at \$6.75. Hongkong Ropes have advanced considerably after sales at \$129 1/2, \$130, \$135, \$137, \$138, and \$139 to \$140, at which last rate, a considerable number of shares being on offer, the market declined to \$138, which is the closing rate. Fenwicks have changed hands at \$29 1/2 and Lees at \$108.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Ranks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	187 1/2 % prem. =
China & Japan, pref.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary	£1 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred	£1	£2, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$26 1/2, buyers
Founders Shares	£1	\$100
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	15s.	nominal
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	(in liquidation).
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$6
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$8
China Sugar	\$100	\$136, sales & sellers
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	\$1, buyers
Dairy Farm Co.	\$5	\$5, nominal
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$29 1/2, sales & sellers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$17 1/2, sales & sellers
H. & China Bakery	\$50	\$30
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$138, sal. & buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$8	\$6.75, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$98, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$27, sales
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$108, sales
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$58 1/2, sales & sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$129 1/2, sales
H. & W. Dock	\$125	218 p. ct. prem. =
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$184, sales & buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$97 1/2, sales & buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$76, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$339, sales & buyers
North-China	£25	Tls. 192 1/2
Straits	\$20	\$27 1/2
Union	\$25	\$235, sales
Yangtze	\$60	\$150, sellers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$75 1/2, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$8 1/2, sales
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$18 1/2, sellers
West Point Building	\$40	\$18 1/2, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$48, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	72 1/2
Jebebus	\$5	\$2.0, sellers
New Balmoral	\$3	\$1.75, sales & sellers
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$7, sellers
Do. B.	\$2 1/2	\$1.50, sellers
Punjom	\$4	\$12, sales & sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$3.80, sales
Raubs	13s. 10d.	\$6.25, buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$70
China Mutual Ord.	£5	£2.10, sellers
Do. Preference	£10	£7, sellers
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$55, sales & sellers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$33, sal. & sellers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$43 1/2, sellers
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37 1/2	\$45, ex. div.
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12.75, sal. & sellers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 23rd October.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shares have been neglected during the week, and Indo-China shares have had most attention. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—No business has been done, owing to the absence of buyers, and the market is weak with sellers. We quote 188 per cent. premium as the closing rate. National Bank.—Shares are wanted in Hongkong at \$25 1/2. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. Co. shares have been in strong demand, and cash sales have been made at Tls. 31, 31 1/2, Tls. 31 1/2 and Tls. 32 for January at Tls. 32, for February at Tls. 32 1/2, and for March Tls. 33 1/2 to Tls. 34 1/2. Docks.—Boyd & Co. shares were placed at Tls. 185. S. C. Farnham & Co.—A sale at

Tls. 18, for 30th April, is reported. Shanghai S.S. & Dock Co.—A Founders' shares was placed at Tls. 150 and ordinary shares, with Tls. 25 paid up, were at Tls. 26, and more are offering. Marine Insurance.—Business was done in China Traders shares at \$76, North Chinas at Tls. 195, and Straits at \$29 for delivery on the 31st March. Yangtzes are weak with sellers. Unions are steady at \$235 ex dividend. Fire Insurance.—Chinas have been placed at \$97. There is no change to report in Hongkong. Wharfs.—Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf shares were sold, and are offering, at Tls. 122. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf shares are off-ring, in Hongkong, at 58. Mining.—Sheridans have been sold at Tls. 3.85 and Tls. 4, and Raubs were placed at \$5. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares changed hands at Tls. 43. China Sugar Refining shares were sold at \$147 and \$148 for the 31st March. Luzon Sugar Refining shares have recovered, and business was done at \$59 for March, and \$60/61 for April, from Hongkong. Lands.—Shanghai Land shares, fully paid up, were sold at Tls. 82. The Tls. 30 paid up shares are wanted at Tls. 58, but are held for higher rates. Industrial.—Ewo Cotton shares changed hands at Tls. 84 and Tls. 85. A few Ico shares were placed at Tls. 150, and more are offering. Miscellaneous.—Business was done in:—Shanghai Gas shares at Tls. 210, Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares at Tls. 112, Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares at Tls. 550 cash, Tls. 525 for the 31st current, Tls. 60 for the 31st December, and Tls. 630 for the 31st March, and Green Island Cement shares, from Hongkong, at \$17. Shares in A. S. Watson & Co. have been sold in Hongkong at \$12.85. There are sellers here at \$13.

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 23rd October (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—Since our last issue the London Conference lines have reduced their rate of freight on tea to London from 40s. to 35s., and rates to New York have been advanced to 35s. on both tea and general cargo, the idea of both Conferences being apparently to keep the two rates more on a level than has hitherto been the case. A good quantity of cargo has gone forward by steamer via Suez to New York, and prospects on this berth are better, but there has not been much improvement to London. Coasting.—One or two fixtures have been made from Japan to Shanghai, but otherwise we have very little to report, the regular companies being able to meet all demands and no outsiders being required. Rates of freight are:—London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 40s.; tea 35s.; Northern Continental ports, by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 40s.; tea 35s.; New York, by Conference Lines, general cargo 30s.; tea 30s.; New York via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; tea 4s. 6d.; Boston via New York, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; tea 42s. 6d.; Philadelphia, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; tea 42s. 6d. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. London, by German mail, Shell, and Rickmers' Lines, general cargo 3 s. 6d. net; Hamburg, by German mail, Shell, and Rickmers' Lines, general cargo 31s. 6d. net; New York, by German mail, Shell, and Rickmers' Lines, general cargo 40s. less 10 per cent.; Havre direct, general cargo 32s. 6d. net; Genoa, tallow 32s. 6d.; general cargo 3 s. 6d. net; Marseilles, tallow 32s. 6d.; general cargo 32s. 6d. net. 42s. 6d. per ton of 20 cwt. for above three ports. New York, by sail, 17s. 6d.; New York by Pacific Lines, 1½ gold cents per lb. Coast rates are:—Moji to Shanghai, 80 cents nominal per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai, 80 cents nominal per ton coal.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Ceylon (str.), Menelaus (str.).
Manila (str.), Mirzapore (str.), Himeji Maru (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—Doris (str.), Clan Macfarlane.
For BREMEN.—Preussen (str.).
For VICTORIA.—Braemar (str.). Monmouthshire (str.).
For NEW YORK.—Saint Mark, William H. Smith, S. D. Carleton.
For BALTIMORE.—El Capitan.
For AUSTRALIA.—Changsha (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

October—
22, Formosa, British str., from Amoy.
22, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
22, Knight of St. John, British str., from Bombay.
22, Idzumi Maru, Jap. str., from Kobe.
22, Hyson, British str., from Liverpool.
22, Phra Nang, British str., from Bangkok.

22, Independent, German str., from N'chwang.
23, Chefoo, British str., from Canton.
23, Glengyle, British str., from London.
23, Irene, German cruiser, from Yokohama.
23, Produce, Norwegian str., from Swatow.
23, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
24, Canton, British str., from Newchwang.
24, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
24, Bygdo, Norw. str., from Canton.
24, Taksang, British str., from Canton.
24, Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.
24, Peiyang, German str., from Chinkiang.
24, Kiangnan, Chinese str., from Swatow.
24, Onsang, British str., from Cheribon.
24, Africa, Portuguese transport, from Macao.
24, Kweiyang, British str., from N'chwang.
24, Sishan, British str., from Singapore.
25, Mathilde, German str., from Hoihow.
25, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
25, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
25, Tetartos, German str., from Singapore.
26, Independent, German str., from Canton.
26, Ernest Simons, Fr. str., from Marseilles.
26, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
26, Kwongsang, British str., from Swatow.
26, Letimbrio, Italian str., from Bombay.
26, Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
26, Dorio, British str., from San Francisco.
26, Ask, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
26, Caledonien, French str., from Shanghai.
26, Siegfried, German str., from Hongay.
27, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.
27, Nanyang, German str., from Canton.
27, Formosa, British str., from Swatow.
27, Menmuir, British str., from Sydney.
27, Decima, German str., from Saigon.
27, Keemun, British str., from Amoy.

DEPARTURES.

October—
22, Daphne, German str., for Yokohama.
22, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
22, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
22, Erato, German str., for Hamburg.
22, Australian, British str., for Australia.
22, D. Rickmers, German str., for Bangkok.
22, Preussen, German str., for Shanghai.
22, Sabine Rickmers, German str., for Amoy.
22, Benvorlich, British str., for Yokohama.
22, Chingtu, British str., for Kobe.
22, Krim, Norw. str., for Port Wallut.
22, Pekin, British str., for Europe.
22, Taisang, British str., for Swatow.
22, Zaffro, British str., for Manila.
23, Oslo, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
23, Hyson, British str., for Amoy.
23, Wuotan, German str., for Singapore.
23, Cassius, German str., for Amoy.
23, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
23, Kong Beng, British str., for Bangkok.
23, Ancona, British str., for Yokohama.
23, Memnon, British str., for Sandakan.
24, Chefoo, British str., for Shanghai.
24, Idzumi Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
24, Independent, German str., for Canton.
24, Glengyle, British str., for Shanghai.
24, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
24, Propolis, British str., for Singapore.
24, Suisang, British str., for Singapore.
25, Bygdo, Norw. str., for Chefoo.
25, Canton, British str., for Canton.
25, Daphne, British gunboat, for Manila.
25, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
25, Hailong, British str., for Amoy.
25, Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Canton.
25, Knight of St. John, British str., for Kobe.
25, Machew, British str., for Swatow.
25, Peiyang, German str., for Canton.
25, Saratov, Russian str., for Singapore.
25, Shaftesbury, British str., for Australia.
25, Sulberg, German str., for Newchwang.
25, Taksang, British str., for Taiwanfoo.
26, Ernest Simons, French str., for Shanghai.
26, Kweiyang, British str., for Canton.
26, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.
27, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
27, Kwongsang, British str., for Canton.
27, Choysang, British str., for Canton.
27, City of Peking, Amr. str., for S. Francisco.
27, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
27, Independent, German str., for Chefoo.
27, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
27, Mathilde, German str., for Pakhoi.
27, Wingsang, British str., for Swatow.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per Haitan, str., from Coast Ports.—Messrs. H. W. Andrews and Cuming, and 153 Chinese.

Per Loongmoon, steamer, from Shanghai.—Messrs. Gillespie, Merzelin, Tang, Asworth, Duncan, and King.

Per Knight of St. John, str., from Bombay, &c.—Mr. Henry Fein.

Per Idzumi Maru, str., from Kobe.—Captain Forbes.

Per Hyson, str., from Liverpool, &c.—Mrs. Hogg, Miss Hogg, and Miss E. Hogg.

Per Glengyle, str., from London.—Miss Pole, Mr. Thompson, Mr. H. M. Bain, and Mr. F. D. Bain.

Per Canton, str., from Newchwang.—Mr. and Mrs. H. Bush.

Per Ernest Simons, str., for Hongkong from Marseilles.—Mrs. B. Morgan, Messrs. Porchet and W. Everest, Sisters Theodora Lucian, Agata Bonani, Regina Pedrotti, Maria Gilmozzi, Angela Robecchi, Amabile Marchion, Constancy Cristofori, and Joachim Pedro. From Colombo.—Messrs. Chee Hing, Ceep Tung, Ho Kong, Lou Kan, C. L. Leong Sew, Long Sang, Ho Kart, and Alexander. From Singapore.—Messrs. K. S. Peru, Inouye, K. Yoda, G. Duysler, Wilson, Lee Soon Swee, Loo Cher Sin, Seng Chong, Yong Lee Sou, Yong Wah, King Siah, and Brown. From Saigon.—Messrs. Laze, Khun Houb Tuy, Edwards, and R. Singer. For Shanghai from Marseilles.—Mr. and Mrs. Ready, Rev. and Mrs. Davidson and infant, Rev. J. W. Stevenson, Mr. B. L. Simpson, Mrs. Brunat and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Knobel and 2 children, Messrs. W. Duysberg, D. J. Lamberts, Barat, Revs. Egide Brochmann, Berhard, Boerke, and Sergis Schurmann. Mr. and Mrs. Camille Berthelot, Pères Haurath, Mallet, Verstaël, Poncke, de Joegher, Van Damme, Wanters, Anico, Verstaete, Verivilgen, and Lech, Mr. Henning, Pères Azzoni and Eug. Taverna. From Saigon.—Miss Harsmann. For Yokohama from Marseilles.—Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Ceumbe, Messrs. Louis Rondon, Fonkoubu, J. Sakamoto, Mr. and Mrs. Popoff and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Schoeninger, Mr. R. Pfister, and Mrs. Palyart. From Colombo.—Mr. Chs. A. Harper. From Singapore.—Messrs. Ali Cohen, M. Dandenborgh, G. Gaggino, and G. Shakury and infant. From Saigon.—Mr. Pinelli.

Per Esmeralda, str., from Manila.—Miss J. Calvo, Messrs. J. Whitehead and H. Sledge.

DEPARTED.

Per Pekin, str., from Hongkong for Singapore.—Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Awdry. For London.—Mr. L. E. Tier, R.N., and Commander H. Cotesworth, R.N. From Shanghai for Bombay.—Mr. E. Shellim. For London.—Miss Lane, Miss Selby, Mr. and Mrs. Curnow and child, Messrs. T. S. Yew and P. C. Chyo. From Kobe for Bombay.—Messrs. J. Sone and Y. Yasukawa. For London.—Mr. R. Barton Wright.

Per Australian, str., for the Colonies.—Mr. and Miss Martin, Miss Menzies, Baron Harden Hioky, Mrs. Tilburn and 2 children, Mrs. M. Beaumont, and Mr. Rundle.

Per Daphne, str., for Yokohama from Southampton.—Mr. O. Boaz. From Singapore.—Mr. Tanzawa, Mrs. Ohkisan. From Hongkong.—Mrs. Loo See and child, Mrs. Leong See and child, Mr. Lo Log Son and 2 children.

Per Preussen, str., for Shanghai from Bremen.—Messrs. F. Bock and C. Hummelke, and Capt. Chr. Hansen. From Southampton.—Baron v. Reitzenstein, Messrs. R. B. Hildebrand, P. Blesky, C. Kranz, H. Beck, E. Bjournsen, and B. Grote, Mrs. Kierulf, Mr. and Mrs. Farlongo and 2 children, Mrs. Munsie, Mrs. Holmes and children, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, Mr. and Mrs. Matson, Mrs. Gillison and child, Mrs. Valentine and children, Miss E. M. Buxton, Mr. McCumraet, Mrs. Neumann, Mrs. Brodie and children. From Genoa.—Messrs. A. Klinker, W. Trautmann, F. Platzkoster, P. Y. Underwood, and Mrs. G. Henning. From Naples.—Mr. and Mrs. Y. Block. From Hongkong.—Mrs. Miller, Mr. Suidter, Mr. H. E. Wulf.

Per Taisang, str., for Shanghai.—Mr. and Mrs. Kingsley.

Per Britannic, str., for Nagasaki.—Mrs. J. Hogg, Miss Ella Hogg, Miss Margaret Hogg, Messrs. A. Muir and P. Happel.

Per Glengyle, str., for Shanghai from London.—Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Conner, Mrs. Hirst, Mrs. Leake, Dr. Neill, Miss Smith, Mrs. Carmichael.